



# **HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY**

2000



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HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIFTH  
ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT OF  
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

2008



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# Presidential Address

To the 125th Annual Convention of the Theosophical Society,  
Adyar, 26 December 2000

A warm welcome, Brothers and Sisters, to this 125th Annual Convention of the Theosophical Society, and to our much-loved Headquarters at Adyar. The theme of our Convention this year is 'The Theosophical Society — Still in the Vanguard'. It has been and must continue to be in the vanguard of

thought for many centuries to come in order to bring peace and true spiritual progress to this planet and its inhabitants. Let us invoke the blessing of our Elder Brethren that we may have the strength and selfless dedication necessary to continue to assist humanity in its march towards higher levels of realization:

**May those who are the embodiments of Love immortal bless with Their help and guidance this Society, founded to be a channel for Their work. May They inspire it with Their wisdom, strengthen it with Their power, and energize it with Their activity.**

In these one hundred and twenty-five years, many changes have taken place in the world, not only materially, but also in the sphere of thought. I believe, and surely you do too, that the Theosophical Society has been a major contributor in bringing about these changes essential for human progress. From time to time journalists ask, 'What has the Theosophical Society been doing all these years?' There is often an implication, when this question is put by journalists, that the Society has not done anything remarkable to alleviate human suffering: no orphanages they know of have been set up, or vast

amounts of money collected and donated for relief work. To such people it seems as if there are no visible effects to prove the Society's claim to be a spiritual and philanthropic body. There are others besides journalists who, too, dismiss activities such as holding conferences, organizing studies and discussion, and disseminating literature, as theoretical occupations which do not respond to the needs of the world and its practical problems. To the members of the TS, by contrast, it must be very clear that the most practical action for such a Society as ours is to give a steady impetus for right thinking based on the

right view of life. So far the Society has given this impetus quietly and consistently. Will it continue to do so?

Right mental attitudes arise effortlessly when there is insight into the multidimensional and profound nature of life and its purposes. Our members must realize that right thought and right views are indispensable for the regeneration of the human consciousness and for a new, more spiritual civilization to emerge, and that all of us must work hard to be able to give a lead in this direction. Changes in the mental field do not occur quickly, because the mind is heavily conditioned. The unconditioning process involves renunciation of personal attachments and interests, which is not the work of a day. Our commitment, therefore, must continue and as a body we must offer encouragement and opportunities to discuss and ponder life's problems in order to have deep insights leading to altruistic thought and action. This may appear theoretical and unproductive to those who do not see far. We should not be discouraged if the expectation of quick results — not lasting results — on the part of others is not fulfilled. As all the world knows, the mills of God grind slowly: the spiritual regeneration our Society is working for will take place only through faith in patient and steady effort.

Let us look back to the conditions at the end of the nineteenth century, when Madame Blavatsky repro-

claimed the ancient wisdom teachings. Outside India there were hardly any people who realized that life is one, is a whole, and that all is consciousness in this vast universe. Today, however, there are many thoughtful people — philosophers, scientists, ecologists and others — who see interconnections and unifying forces in the whole universe. For example, Sir William Rees, the eminent cosmologist and British Astronomer Royal, says: 'There are deep connections between stars and atoms, between the cosmos and the micro-world.' This new but old perception indicates an enormous change in the field of thought, and Theosophists have, in large measure, stimulated progress in this direction through writings, lectures, studies, personal contacts and, not least of all, thought waves. Theosophists have helped to set in motion vibrations in the invisible sphere of the mind, through their contemplation and meditations, which have had repercussions on human consciousness as a whole. We may not have been the only ones to do this, but we have been in the vanguard.

Is it the duty of Theosophists to attend meetings, or to join Lodges of the Society and to participate in study and discussion? There are some members who are unwilling to perform such 'duties'; some others take such activities to be part of an accepted routine in their lives. But



members who are genuinely committed to probing the mysteries of life and who are devoted to the high ideal of human progress and perfection meet, ponder and enquire together — joyfully, not reluctantly — in order to clear the way for the light of wisdom to penetrate their minds. Joint exploration, serious discussion and study not only promote individual understanding, but unify minds. The Eightfold Path enunciated by the Buddha refers to right views and right thought; the rightness comes through deep enquiry and correct perception.

It is easy to ignore or downgrade the importance of right thought. *The Voice of the Silence* says: 'The mind is the great slayer of the Real. Let the disciple slay the slayer.' This does not mean that we can either live mindlessly at the empirical level of our ordinary activities or revert back to the unconscious perfection of the pre-human state. In the latter, innocence prevails and Nature's intelligence, which we call instinct, functions. But at the human level mind has an important role in directing activities. When the mind is personal and self-centred, thinking is distorted and action becomes evil. I believe it is a misunderstanding of Krishnamurti's statements to imagine that all thought processes are to be shunned. He has in fact said: 'It is only a mind that is capable of thinking that can create a new world where there is no misery, no

sorrow.' He certainly refers to right thinking. Obviously, we cannot do without thought and become imbeciles. But as he often said, thought must be put in its right place and thinking capacity used properly.

Many of today's evils spring from wrong thinking and a wrong world-view. Research has proved that the increase in violence which we witness these days is in no small measure due to the violent scenes depicted on the screen and to fiction in which crime and violence are central. On the other hand, ancient Indian literature dealing with drama, dance and other arts, declared that art should abstain completely from presenting scenes of murder, violence and sensuality. They knew that the message communicated through such presentations is that violence and sensual gratification are appropriate responses in many situations. They shape thought along these lines and therefore it has become everyday reality in the present world to rape, shoot, blow up lives and commit other atrocities.

Wrong thought is generated by ignorance of the fundamental laws of the universe and a false view of life. For instance, the prevalent view that this world is composed of human and other living beings unrelated to each other, with separate aims and interests, cannot but generate aggression and wrongdoing. Similarly, a concept of life in which man alone is important

and animals, plants and other creatures are regarded as objects to utilize, not sentient beings with feelings of pain, affection or trust, results in the selfishness so characteristic of the modern world. Why is cruelty to human beings and animals on such a scale accepted without question? Because people do not think that such behaviour is immoral. Their concept of life is one in which man alone has value, or we might correctly say, certain classes of human beings alone are deemed really human.

The ancient wisdom proclaims that all is life and intelligence in the universe, including minerals and apparently inanimate things; everywhere there are internal responses of consciousness, even when we do not perceive them because we lack sensitivity. Pain and joy, fear and confidence are the experiences of all living creatures, however small. When thought is right, it is based on the view that we are in a living, undivided universe; then kindness, peace and joy are a natural part of us.

Let us also remember that all our thoughts and feelings get communicated; they spread in all directions. Through us other people are being influenced all the time into having right or wrong thoughts. Even more powerful than the visual images produced on the screen by which so many people are conditioned, are the vibrations in the psychic world of emotion and thought. Theosophical

literature, including such books as Annie Besant's *Thought Power* and C. W. Leadbeater's *Thought-Forms*, has presented to the public important information about invisible happenings. If we have not lost confidence in the perceptions which led us to the Theosophical Society, we shall realize that our interchanges at meetings, study classes and conferences, and even informal conversations and explorations at the dining table or during a walk, can have a potent effect on human consciousness, our own and that of humanity in general. We are constantly purifying and strengthening our minds and intellect or doing the contrary; every day of our lives we are pouring into the world atmosphere thought which conduces to true progress or does not do so. These forms of theosophical work are not to be taken as a routine duty, nor must their importance be diluted. They are a measure of the responsibility we feel for the progress of humanity and of our understanding of the work we have on hand.

Wise people have taught that we can learn from everything in life, from wrongdoers as well as from good people, from pain as well as from joy. 'No man is your enemy, no man is your friend. All alike are your teachers.' If someone does wrong, we can learn from him or her what not to do. If a person is virtuous and good, we have an opportunity to emulate him or her. Spiritual students learn



from everything, from every circumstance, giving their attention and their hearts to it. In a discussion, if a foolish remark is made it stimulates a closer examination of the truth. Both the dull lecturer and the brilliant one can set in motion thoughtful enquiry within the mind of an intelligent and brotherly listener. When what we call the good as well as the bad kindle our energies, we rapidly become more mature and therefore more capable of rendering service to others.

For the successful study of life, the student must be equipped with a sensitive, open and alert mind. Serious participation in theosophical study in a cooperative spirit transforms the mind in this direction. Observation of life and of the many relationships which we have with our fellows and with the rest of Nature, also deepens awareness; otherwise we may learn superficially, without assimilating needed lessons.

The emphasis in the TS has always been on openness of approach to Truth and harmonious relationships. When we work together in a group which is brotherly and harmonious, the

vibrations set up in the inner worlds are strong and helpful. Ill will and acrimony of any kind have the opposite effect. In her essay on *Practical Occultism* Madame Blavatsky repeatedly stresses the importance of students being at peace with all, and the necessity to be attuned with each other, chasing away every hostile thought. Working together in a completely brotherly spirit, with minds which are open and sensitive to truth from wherever it may arrive and in whatever form it may present itself is the characteristic of real theosophical work. It is not difficult either to band people together through belief in dogmas, or to pursue ideas and philosophize without experiencing universally fraternal relationships. The Theosophical Society is uniquely situated to be in the vanguard of world thought because in it there can be found encouragement both to be open in the search for Truth, and to have a wide and sympathetic heart. Only such a body of people trained to have the spirit of universality, and to enquire deeply into life's mysteries, can be in the forefront of progress.

\* \* \*

During the year the International Vice-President, Miss Mary Anderson, visited a number of countries in Europe and gave talks, conducted seminars, and made useful contacts with members. Her tour included Austria, Germany, Holland, Slovenia,

Switzerland and Israel. She spoke in several English Lodges and also in Scotland. In India, she was the chief guest at the annual conferences in Assam, Rayalaseema, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. In addition to her normal work in the office, she gave a

course on the 'Fundamentals of Theosophy' in the School of the Wisdom.

Miss Joy Mills, former Vice-President, made some brief tours in the American Section and lectured in May at eight Lodges in the English Section. In March she gave a special one-week intensive seminar at Krotona to which workers from Holland, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and some prominent members of the American Section were invited in order to explore teaching techniques and programmes on basic Theosophy with emphasis on *The Mahatma Letters*. There has been a demand for another workshop of this kind to be held in 2001, with emphasis on *The Secret Doctrine*. From late October to mid December Miss Mills conducted a course on 'The Life Worth Living' at the School of the Wisdom, which she directed.

I spent several months touring the Americas, starting with a stay at 'Olcott' in July, when the Annual Meeting and summer school took place. Apart from lectures, I conducted a seminar on 'The Divine Plan'. Prior to going abroad, an exploration of various facets of the Divine Plan was made in April at Adyar, during the South Indian Conference. After the stay at 'Olcott' I passed through Vancouver in Canada, where a one-day seminar for the public was arranged, and then gave talks at the Krotona Centre. In

August and September I spent a few days each in Mexico, Cuba, Costa Rica, Colombia, Brazil, Chile, Argentina, Uruguay, Peru and Japan. After a brief return to Adyar, I travelled again to participate first in the Bombay Federation Conference, then in the All Africa Convention at Nairobi, and lastly, in the Gujarat Federation Conference in Ahmedabad, where about 300 members were present. Another Federation Conference to which I went was held in May near Huliya in Karnataka. All these travels were valuable for understanding the problems, needs and work of the Sections, Federations and areas. Personal contacts seem to achieve what correspondence cannot. The travels of all lecturers help to strengthen a feeling for the international character of the Society and integrate the worldwide work.

Mr Gabriel Burgos, a leading member of the Colombian Section, visited a number of Lodges and gave lectures in Central America and Mexico. His visits were much appreciated. Mr and Mrs Jan Kind of Brazil also visited many places in Latin America and encouraged the members in some weaker areas by making suggestions and facilitating contacts. Mr Alfredo Puig, President of the Inter-American Federation, rendered valuable help by accompanying me during part of my tour and translating lectures.

Professor Krishna lectured at the Italian Convention at Perugia and the All Africa Convention in Nairobi, and spoke at various other theosophical functions.

Miss Trân-Thi-Kim-Diêu, Chairman of the European Federation, visited Italy to participate in the Section's Annual Convention, and was also at Vicenze when the Section headquarters was inaugurated there. She participated in the French-speaking summer school, which took place at Naarden, Holland, and the English, Spanish and Slovenian summer schools, and also visited Portugal.

This year has seen the departure to higher worlds of several staunch and devoted members, of whom I shall name only a few here: Mrs Barbro Melander, who was Chairman of the European Federation for several years, was much loved and respected in her own country, Sweden, and in Europe, not only for her TS work but for her environmental interests and fine and affectionate character; Mr Charles James, a pillar of Cardiff Lodge and the Welsh Section, held office as General Secretary at various times; Mrs Dorothy Abbenhouse, National President of the TS in America for six years, had close links with the Orcas Island theosophical camps; in Hungary, when the TS was resuscitated after a long *pralaya* under the communist government, László Reicher held office as Presidential Representative; Mr Abdul Rahim

Sabry El-Hakim from Egypt was Treasurer at Adyar after he had worked there in other capacities for some time. To these and to many other dedicated members who departed from the physical plane we pay our tribute and offer gratitude. Everywhere the stalwarts inspire others to carry on. So there is a relay team continuously in the field, every generation passing on responsibility to a new generation.

For the first time, an All Africa Convention was held this year from 20 to 24 October in Nairobi. It brought together delegates from Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Uganda, South Africa and Ghana, in spite of the enormous difficulties in this vast continent. Among the overseas visitors were myself, Professor P. Krishna from Varanasi and Mrs Terezinha Kind from Brazil. We hope this well-organized and happy Convention will stimulate more interest in Theosophy, and strengthen the work. A decision was taken to form a Pan African Theosophical Federation with Mr T. G. Davis as the first Coordinator. Thirty-four new members received their diplomas, and many books were sold. A fuller report appears in the December issue of *The Theosophist*.

In spite of the emigration of Asians and Europeans from Africa, the report of the General Secretary of the East and Central African Section, Mr H. G. Devani, indicates a slight increase in the strength of the Section. He

mentions that they have been able to attract more Africans to the Society in Kenya and Zambia. Nile Lodge in Uganda, revived after many years of despotism in that country, is doing well, but the report also says that Zambia and Tanzania have only two active Lodges, while Kenya has six.

Other Lodges are intermittently active. All the three countries have bookstalls and have profited from the significant discounts provided by TPH, Adyar.

Several members of the Society in Southern Africa, led by the General Secretary, Mr T. G. Davis, participated in the Parliament of World Religions, held in Cape Town in December 1999 and, holding up the banner of the TS in Southern Africa, joined the colourful march which was part of the programme. The atrocities which occurred in Zimbabwe caused great anxiety and prevented more members from travelling to Nairobi for the Convention already mentioned. The membership has risen from 236 to 257, in spite of the crimes and uncertainties which have become part of the scenario in recent times.

The West African Section has lost some members because of serious economic problems. They now have 317 on their rolls. The Executive Council has drawn up an action plan for the year 2001, including a financial scheme. Plans are afoot to construct a first floor on the headquarters building in Accra. The Annual Convention was

held in July at Accra with the theme 'The Inner Man and the Evolving Universe'. In addition to normal Lodge programmes, a workers' course in March and a weekend seminar at the University of Science and Technology in Kumasi were organized. *The Theosophist* and theosophical books have been donated to various libraries. In Nigeria, all Lodges and study centres are functioning, but with a reduced attendance due to economic problems.

The report from the Organizing Secretary in the Ivory Coast mentions serious difficulties because of the economic and political situation. Their third Convention, since their certification as a Regional Association, attracted twenty-five participants and a mini summer school was held at their headquarters in Abidjan. The Organizing Secretary participated in a radio programme. The report from Togo mentions that one Lodge studied HPB's *Key to Theosophy* and held a spiritual retreat in September on 'The Basis of a New Religion, the Three Objects of the Society'. One group of three members is studying *At the Feet of the Master* along with other interested students. A third group is studying N. Sri Ram's *Thoughts for Aspirants*.

The work in the Indian Section has proceeded as usual, with lectures, conferences, study camps, the publication of books and other activities from one end of the country to the other. The membership at the end of September was 12,699.



Professor K. V. K. Nehru of Hyderabad has prepared computer slides on theosophical subjects which will aid lecturers to give basic courses on Theosophy. In some places talks, essay competitions and other programmes for school and college students are arranged to acquaint them with theosophical concepts. Theosophical bookstalls were set up in book fairs held in Delhi and Bhavnagar with gratifying results. Translations of theosophical books into Indian languages are regularly published by Federations, sometimes with financial aid from the Section. One novel piece of information in the General Secretary's report is that a member of the Karnataka Federation had decided that only theosophical books would be received as gifts for his son's wedding, instead of the usual cash and presents. He arranged for books to be sold in the wedding hall, and the gifts of books received will be used to start a library open to the public.

There are two Lodges in Pakistan. At Karachi, well publicized and well attended lectures are held in a hotel, which makes the TS more visible to the public. A study group meets regularly for in-depth study of Theosophy in the TS building, where a good library and reading room are accessible to the public, free of charge. Besides the bimonthly *Karachi Theosophist*, a Sindhi journal is brought out every month. The Hyderabad Lodge is

preparing to celebrate its centenary in February 2001.

The Sri Lankan Section is still severely handicapped by the chaotic situation in the country. There is an ambitious project to rebuild the headquarters building in Colombo with all the facilities needed for expanding the work. In Indonesia, where, too, economic and other difficulties loom large, the annual convention took place in Surakarta with forty-eight delegates. Young Theosophists of Surabaya arranged a recreation-study camp in a mountain resort in East Java, with outdoor meditation and talks. The membership of the Section continues to decline.

The Presidential Representative for South-East Asia, Dr C. V. Agarwal, reports the formation in Thailand of the first ever Lodge with fourteen members, which holds regular fortnightly meetings in Bangkok. A new Lodge was also founded in Patiya, Bangladesh. Mr Vicente Haó Chin Jr, President of the Indo-Pacific Federation, visited Bangladesh and suggested ways to improve the work there. Singapore has the most active Lodge in this area and now has 146 members. Its courses on basic Theosophy attract the public. There are altogether 409 members in South-East Asia.

In the Spanish speaking regions of America, the most important event was a seminar arranged in June in Puerto Rico. This was the fifth seminar

of its kind, with about one hundred participants from the Caribbean Basin. The General Secretary in Puerto Rico reports that 'happiness was overflowing everywhere'. Among visitors from overseas were Mr Fernando Torrijos and Mr Martin Leiderman from the USA, and Mr Isaac Jauli from Spain. An interesting history of the Theosophical Society in Puerto Rico was published, with information gathered from various periodicals. This Section is in close contact with Lodges in neighbouring Dominica and they are trying to strengthen and expand activities through cooperative work.

The Mexican Section, with a membership of 280, is functioning satisfactorily. They have had problems with their properties in Mexico City which are not easy to solve. Regular contacts are maintained between the headquarters and the Lodges. In Costa Rica studies and lectures are going on as usual in the capital of San José with the membership distributed among three Lodges. There is also a group outside the capital with which there is continual interaction. The Cuban Section, like those in Africa, faces formidable problems of transport, food and almost everything else (during my visit, part of the food for members' lunches was brought from Miami by visitors!), but the members are carrying on with steady devotion. The Section is active and has gained twenty-five members. They hold

regular lectures and study meetings in Havana and other towns. The Section Convention was held in January, centring around *The Mahatma Letters*. Colombia too has problems caused by drug-related activities and the presence of many criminals, which makes contacts difficult. However, regular courses and lectures go on. Five of the Lodges are in the capital, Bogotá, and two in outlying towns. In Venezuela there are still only two Lodges. Public lectures and other meetings continue in both Lodges, and there is an active Round Table group.

The Regional Association in Chile has a slight increase in membership. They have regular meetings for the public and other activities like a bookshop, a library open to the public, study courses, meditation meetings and the Order of Service. During the year they received several visiting lecturers who helped to create interest. Some of the Chilean members attended the summer school in Argentina. In Bolivia the four Lodges, constituting the Presidential Agency, met every month and studied discipleship and karma on a national level. A seminar was held in June, when Mr Juan Carlos Palmeri dealt with the subject of the seven principles of man and the mystery of the human constitution, and Mr Juan Cassibba and Mrs Paulina Palmeri conducted a study of *The Mahatma Letters*. In Peru public talks are held throughout the year. Among the visitors were Mr Juan

Cassibba and Mr and Mrs Palmeri from Argentina. A course given by Mr Palmeri on 'Buddhist Teachings in the Light of Theosophy' drew many people. Another visitor was Mrs Terezinha Kind from Brazil. A public talk by the International President on 'Life — Our Great Teacher' attracted 350 people. A course on the principles of Theosophy is being repeated as it helps new members who also receive a letter from the Presidential Representative. Their magazine *Busqueda* is now being distributed to 1,000 people instead of to 500, as before. The TOS is active, and a new Young Theosophist Group has been started.

The Brazilian Section, where Portuguese and not Spanish is spoken, has 903 members. In addition to the regular meetings of Lodges, as usual, a summer school, a winter school and an international school were held. The international school was conducted by Dr Richard Brooks with the theme 'A Comparative Study of Religions'. There were several regional gatherings, and varied events in the Pythagoras Centre in São Paulo and in the nearby Raja Centre. All lectures and seminars are filmed and presented on four television channels. A training programme is being developed as well as courses at basic and intermediate levels. Books published during the year included Sinnett's *The Occult World* and Mabel Collins' *The Idyll of the White Lotus*. A nursery, funded by

members and the public, shelters fourteen children.

The TS in the United States is in a 'sound condition', says the National President. He adds: 'The Section is active, growing and reaching out with new technologies to present the ancient wisdom of Theosophy to the world.' The membership rose from 4171 to 4634, an increase of 463. Out of this total, 675 members belong to the National Lodge, spread all over the country. Study courses on *The Voice of the Silence*, Dr Taimni's *Self-Culture*, and the *Bhagavadgītā* are sent to the members of this Lodge. Two meetings of young theosophists were held and created much enthusiasm. The Section has acquired a fully automated library system, uniting the libraries at Olcott, Krotona and New York. Valuable documentary material relating to well-known Theosophists like Annie Besant and C. W. Leadbeater, which was with the late Mr Fritz Kunz, was donated to the Section Archives by Mr John Kunz, his son. The Section also received papers connected with Mr Geoffrey Hodson from New Zealand. The Quest Book publications and other activities, like lecture programmes, have gone on steadily. The number of members in the Canadian Federation has increased by 22. Their magazine was sent to universities and colleges and some other groups with the expectation of receiving enquiries. They are



working on a new national Constitution and Rules and hope to have a web page by the end of the year.

Mr Colin Price, General Secretary of the English Section, reports that the Section is regenerating itself and an optimistic tone permeates the headquarters, where during the year about thirty-five public lectures, some of which were very well attended, and fourteen seminars and study days took place. The membership stands at 994. The General Secretary continued his study of 'Religion throughout the Ages'. A new book by Miss Ianthe H. Hoskins, *Time, Duration and Immortality*, was published as was the Blavatsky Lecture by Mr Michael Gomes. The summer school was held in Ripon with more than eighty participants. Several events took place in Tekels Park, including a Theosophy-Science Conference.

In Scotland the new website containing news of activities is said to have created interest. The Annual Convention was held in Inverness in May, with the Vice-President, Miss Mary Anderson, as guest speaker. Mr John Doherty reports from Belfast in Northern Ireland that a new spirit has entered Belfast Lodge since they changed their location. Meetings are better attended and they are studying *The Divine Plan* and Krishnamurti's teachings among other things. The idea of linking the

theosophical work in Northern and Southern Ireland is still alive.

In Australia the Annual Convention was held in Melbourne, with 'Consciousness and Evolution' as the theme. The National President lectured in several places. Ed and Mary Abdill from New York toured both Australia and New Zealand and Mr Abdill spoke on 'The Foundations of the Ageless Wisdom' at the School of Theosophy, held at the end of May in Springbrook. The Section received the gift of a large and beautiful property in the southern highlands, with a house which is being made suitable for residence by members. The Australian TOS supports projects in Pakistan, the Philippines and Africa, as well as the Olcott School and HPB Hostel at Adyar.

In New Zealand the Annual Convention was held in Auckland with Mrs Diana Dunningham Chapotin as the guest speaker. Among visiting lecturers were Linda and Pedro Oliveira. The headquarters tries to provide speakers every month for the Lodges and Centres. The National Vice-President, Mr Conrad Jamieson, corresponded with enquirers from prisons. There was a slight increase in membership, which now stands at 1,122. Mrs Roma Dunningham, a stalwart who gave great support to work in New Zealand, passed away.

As before, there was a variety of activities in Iceland, including lectures, group discussions and

meditation classes for beginners as well as advanced students. Public meetings, followed by discussion, attracted some 40 to 60 persons. In their 'open house' on Saturday afternoons short talks are also followed by discussions. At the summer school in July Professor Ravi Ravindra was guest speaker. The Icelandic magazine continues to have more subscribers who are non-members than members.

In Denmark, some new pamphlets have been produced and are sent to enquirers. Study groups meet regularly and a few new people have attended public talks. In Norway, they continue public meetings in Oslo and activities in Bergen. The status of the TS in Norway had to be changed to that of a Regional Association, but they have the determination to rebuild the TS in Norway.

In Sweden, six Lodges were active, holding lectures, study meetings, and meetings to introduce new people to Theosophy, to discuss the future work and also specially for young theosophists. At the summer school where the theme was 'Ancient Wisdom, Modern Insight' the mornings were devoted to study and the afternoons to creative activities inspired by the study. A mini-school on 'Exploring the Nature of our Search' was held with Miss Tr  n-Thi-Kim-Di  u as a guest. Some translation work is being done and the magazine is regularly published. When Mrs Barbro

Melander, editor of the magazine, passed away, for the first time they used a 'ceremony at the end of life upon earth' which is in the spirit of Theosophy instead of the usual funeral ceremony. In Finland also they had Professor Ravi Ravindra as guest speaker. The Lodges are active and concentrated during the year on the Second Object of the Society. In Estonia a summer school was held outside Talinn.

The General Secretary of the Dutch Section reports that some Lodges are trying to find new ways to attract the public. The Lodges where real Theosophy is studied, and where they make it clear that the TS is concerned with the spiritual evolution of mankind, appear stronger than those without such a focus. The Italian Section has acquired two properties donated by members, one which has become the headquarters in Vicenza; the second one is a property in Trieste donated by admirers of the former General Secretary, Edouardo Bratina. The Section decided to constitute its own publishing house, apart from partnership with the publishing house Adyar Edizione. The total number of members is 1,322. The National Convention was held in Perugia, on the theme 'The Message of Theosophy for the Third Millennium'. Several seminars and symposia and other meetings were held, including one on 'The Theosophy of Giordano Bruno' at the Cervignano Centre.

A new Lodge was chartered in Slovenia in the town of Maribor, and the members are meeting regularly. The other Lodges in the country work and study steadily. Miss Anderson is a regular, welcome visitor at their summer schools. In the middle of June the Council meeting of the European Federation was held here just prior to the summer school. We are informed that the members experience close contact with other members throughout the world by means of letters, reading articles and so on.

The report from Greece says that all the Lodges are working regularly except Blavatsky Lodge, and that the lectures and articles in their magazine are theosophical. Such an assurance is necessary because their publications are indeed Greek to us! We are informed that the turmoil within the Section has ended, brotherliness is restored and cordial cooperation with Adyar has recommenced. In Hungary there is only one active study group, studying and explaining theosophical terms. Two members living outside Budapest have started study for non-members, and the Presidential Representative made monthly visits to help them. There are just 37 members in this country.

In the German Section, the summer school was again held in the pretty town of Lippstadt with about fifty participants, the theme being 'Self-knowledge and Attentiveness'. Work in the Lodges continues regularly. The

weekend meetings in the North of Germany also go on; one in spring and one in autumn. The membership stands at 162. The three Lodges in Austria have regular studies. A member of long standing, Mrs Katharine Hammer, passed away after a long illness.

In France fourteen Lodges are active, but much of the work is centred in Paris and Marseilles. The General Secretary made many contacts and small groups are forming outside these two centres. The Lodge in Rouen has been resuscitated. Dr Taimni's *Gāyatri* was translated and published. The Theosophical Order of Service sponsored Tibetan monks and students in India, an orphanage in Calcutta and students in the Olcott School.

The Spanish General Secretary reports the resumption of the Iberian summer school, held during Easter this year, with a big attendance of about 200 people, which included Portuguese members. The Section has 363 members. Its journal *Sofia* is sent to many Spanish speaking countries. The publishing house has brought out several translated works and is preparing some more. We are told that activities in Portugal went on with enthusiasm. Relations have been established with the publishing house in Brazil, from where they intend to buy books.

Covenant Lodge in Israel, with 65 members, is directly attached to Adyar. It is active throughout the year. A seminar was held in April on

creating happiness, with about 330 participants. There were also six one-day workshops on such subjects as creating our own destiny and aspects of meditation, and meetings for youth as well as introductory courses. A translation of Annie Besant's *A Study in Karma* was published and is said to be selling well. The three Lodges in Japan are continuing their work. During my visit at the end of September there was a well-attended public meeting in Tokyo. There is one Lodge in Korea, and two of its younger members have been in Adyar for some time in order to equip themselves for the work.

The Theosophical Order of Service (TOS) is functioning dynamically in eight countries and to a lesser degree in sixteen countries thanks to the assiduous work of Mrs Diana Dunningham Chapotin and the National Directors in various countries. Information about the extensive service rendered can be obtained from *The Service Link*, the magazine of the TOS. There is much physical suffering in the world and our talk of brotherhood would cease to be meaningful if it did not take practical shape in acts of service. In the affluent countries the suffering of poor people, alcoholics and others in distress are concealed, while in the developing countries they are visible everywhere. To the real Theosophist, compassionate action comes naturally even when suffering is not visible.

Selfless service purifies the mind and makes it more open to wisdom. We should not, therefore, erect a partition between action and realization. All of us can and should do something to help those in need.

At Adyar the most important change to report resulted from a decree of the High Court of Madras in favour of the TS. The organization called Blue Cross of India, which had been wrongfully occupying the part of our estate in Besant Gardens meant for animal welfare work, vacated the area in mid July and the very next day the Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary started functioning thanks to the hard work of our staff. I am happy to report that the centre is working smoothly and treating 35 to 40 animals every day. But it is our aim to do very much more, mainly through creating awareness of the all-pervading cruelty in modern society. We need to encourage people to abstain from using products involving cruelty, to protest against atrocities committed against animals, and also to support work to give our younger brethren a happy and dignified place on earth.

Several new books were brought out by our Publishing House: *Science and the Sacred* by Ravi Ravindra, *Come Unto Me and Other Writings* by Ernest Wood, *Education, Science and Spirituality* by Professor P. Krishna, *Be a Lamp unto Yourself* by Professor K.



Satchidananda Murthy, and *Essentials of Occult Chemistry and Modern Science* by Professor H. J. Arnika, who has since passed away. A reprint of Ianthe Hoskins' *The Secret of Life and Death* was brought out, and some books which have long been out of print were republished, including the four books of A. E. Powell on the etheric double and the astral, mental and causal bodies, *Giordano Bruno* by Annie Besant, *The Living Wisdom* by P. Pavri, and *Sanātana Dharma — An Advanced Textbook* by Annie Besant and Bhagavan Das. Thirty other books were reprinted. Sales of books and the circulation of magazines have improved, but much more needs to be done to take our philosophy and knowledge to the world in general. I invite all Lodges, particularly in India, to participate in local book fairs and promote sales through local booksellers. As Madame Blavatsky said, it is the duty of all members to make Theosophy known and we have a wonderful opportunity to take part in the work by approaching libraries and institutions to buy our books and subscribe to our magazines. It is also open to us to offer gifts of books and magazine subscriptions to relatives, friends and others. As I have already mentioned, a member in Karnataka has set a fine example of practical help in this direction. At the international level,

encouragement must be given by lecturers to interest people in our literature and not only in the spoken word.

The Adyar Library has lost the services of Dr Thangaswamy Sarma, who joined its staff of scholars in September 1994. After a prolonged health problem, he passed away in August. There is urgent need of Sanskrit scholars to carry on the Library's research and publication work. During the year the following new publications were brought out: *Caturdaśalakṣaṇi*, part 2; *Sarvajñānottaragama*, and *Brahmavidyā* (The Adyar Library Bulletin, vol. 63, 1999). Several other works were reprinted. As usual, the Library supplied material to scholars and rendered all other normal services. Such work as conservation, computerization and classification goes on steadily.

We regret that the Secretary of the Olcott Education Society (OES), Mr K. P. Shenoy, who was also Assistant Treasurer of the TS, has been obliged to leave Adyar.

Mr K. V. Srinivasan, a member of Mylapore Lodge, has been elected Secretary in place of Mr Shenoy, with Dr Aruna as Assistant Secretary. The OES has now five units under its aegis, not counting the Banyan Centre for Educators, which has gone into *pralaya* in the absence of suitable programmes to attract enough teachers to make it

worthwhile to continue for the present. In the Olcott Memorial School a few students achieved distinction in the school final examination, although the number who passed was smaller than last year. We have 33 full-time and 10 part-time teachers and about 750 boys and girls in the school. New projects were introduced, which will hopefully improve the quality of education. It is reported that teachers are beginning to see the need to move from methods of memorizing by rote to children expressing themselves with understanding. The midday meal has been qualitatively improved by the addition of more dal and vegetables.

The Vocational Training Centre for Women started a three-month course in January. It included cooking, nutrition, home remedies, laundering, gardening and so on. A second, more advanced course has recently ended. In the HPB Hostel there were between 25 and 30 boys. The students wash and keep the hostel clean, in addition to study, games and other activities. The Social Welfare Centre had a busy year, including a free medical check-up programme for residents in the neighbourhood. Thirty children participated in a nature study camp. Handicrafts were prepared and sold during the last Convention. Activities in the Besant Scout Camping Centre benefited more than 3,000 children and young people.

Archives work has not proceeded very well because of the lack of a suitable person to attend to it following the departure of Mrs Izar Tauceda. We hope that in the coming year much more work can be done in this department.

The January-February session of the School of the Wisdom was conducted by Dr Robert Ellwood, Emeritus Professor of Religion at the University of Southern California and National Lecturer of the American Section. The course consisted of lectures and study of *The Masters and the Path*. In the afternoon there were discussions on the contents of the Quest books written by Dr Ellwood and published by the American Section. The second session of the School of the Wisdom had as its Director Miss Joy Mills, the course theme being 'The Life Worth Living'. The three theosophical gems *At the Feet of the Master*, *Light on the Path*, and *The Voice of the Silence* were studied. Additional lectures were given by Miss Mary Anderson, Vice-President, and others. Students also visited the different departments at Adyar and experienced the peace and beauty of our headquarters.

The water level in the campus has gone down because the monsoon last year was inadequate and it has been a complete failure this year. Mr Kousik Krishnan, Superintendent of the Maintenance Department, has taken great pains to utilize the wells in

different parts of the estate to the maximum extent. The high water tank, which has so far supplied the whole of the main estate with water from one or two wells, has to be dismantled, as it is no longer safe. The Maintenance Department has also been busy with the construction of more first-floor structures near the Bhojanasala to house Convention delegates.

I must record the departure to higher worlds of Mr D. V. Syamala Rao, who came to Adyar as a young man in 1942 and worked in the Vasanta Press for many years, part of the time as Manager. He died peacefully in good health at the age of 95. Mrs Norma Sastry has retired after more than half a century of work at Adyar, and many members will miss her friendly presence in the office. Her work as Accommodation Officer has been taken over by Mrs Helen Jamieson, who is also Information Officer. Mr G. Naganathan who was doing very valuable work for a number of years as the Chief Editor of our publications has also retired owing to health problems.

Surveying the Society's work, we need have no apprehensions about its future, although there are many deficiencies which must be rectified, and much more energy needs to be put into the fulfilling of the essential aims. Some pessimists compare the

numerical strength of the Society with figures of long ago and lament the drop in membership. They fail to take into account that the peak years reflected the numbers who were carried into the Society by the tide of expectation over the World Teacher's appearance; secondly, that in recent decades power fell into the hands of despots, and many Sections and Lodges had to close down over the wide area dominated by communists as was the case in all of Eastern Europe and in countries like Vietnam. In other countries suffering military dictatorship like Indonesia and Pakistan, and regions where civil war has ravaged the land, as in Central America and Nigeria, destiny took options out of our hands. It is not numerical strength that is of primary importance. We need true commitment to world welfare, ardour for wisdom expressing itself in thoughtful living and earnest study of the problems of life, and a determination to lead a pure life of loving action. Renewal and expansion will take place as we fulfil these requirements. Let us pray that the coming years will see the Society growing in spiritual stature because of our endeavours. May we devote ourselves without reserve to the mighty task of building an enlightened human society.

Radha Burnier



# TREASURER'S REPORT — 1999-2000

The Income and Expenditure Account of the Society for the year ended 31 March 2000 shows a surplus of Rs. 275,347. The income statement for the year is as follows:

The gross income of the Society for the year is Rs. 10,848,213, an increase of 0.5% over the previous year. Income from investments, less charges thereon, has increased from Rs. 1,135,132 to Rs. 1,135,132. The income from the business and the surplus from the International Publishing House, the various trusts and the other sources of income are as follows:

There was a significant fall in interest rates in the previous year and this will affect the future income. As all year investments will have to be made at a lower rate. The surplus of the International Publishing House has also fallen from Rs. 1,135,132 to Rs. 1,135,132. The actual loss of Rs. 1,135,132 is the net income of Rs. 1,135,132. The actual loss of Rs. 1,135,132 is the net income of Rs. 1,135,132. The actual loss of Rs. 1,135,132 is the net income of Rs. 1,135,132.

up further due to the fact that the International Publishing House has also fallen from Rs. 1,135,132 to Rs. 1,135,132. The actual loss of Rs. 1,135,132 is the net income of Rs. 1,135,132. The actual loss of Rs. 1,135,132 is the net income of Rs. 1,135,132.

in the loss of Rs. 1,135,132. The actual loss of Rs. 1,135,132 is the net income of Rs. 1,135,132. The actual loss of Rs. 1,135,132 is the net income of Rs. 1,135,132.

costs incurred. The net expenditure of the Society for the year is Rs. 11,35,132. The net expenditure of the Society for the year is Rs. 11,35,132. The net expenditure of the Society for the year is Rs. 11,35,132.

Department (for Expenditure) will be Rs. 11,35,132. The net expenditure of the Society for the year is Rs. 11,35,132. The net expenditure of the Society for the year is Rs. 11,35,132.

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The net expenditure of the Society for the year is Rs. 11,35,132. The net expenditure of the Society for the year is Rs. 11,35,132. The net expenditure of the Society for the year is Rs. 11,35,132.

This is mainly due to the fact that the International Publishing House has also fallen from Rs. 1,135,132 to Rs. 1,135,132. The actual loss of Rs. 1,135,132 is the net income of Rs. 1,135,132.

**TREASURER'S REPORT — 1999-2000**

The Income and Expenditure Account of the Society for the year ending 31 March 2000 shows a surplus of Rs. 275,347/-. The salient features of the year are as follows:

**A. Income:**

The gross income of the Society for the year is Rs. 10,848,313/-, an increase of 6.5% over the previous year. Income from investments, fees & dues realized from the Sections and the surplus from the Theosophical Publishing House and the Vasanta Press account for the major portion of the income.

There was a significant fall in interest rates in the previous year and this will affect the future income, as all fresh investments will have to be made at a lower rate. The surplus in the Theosophical Publishing House has gone up further due to increased sale of publications, though prices of publications are maintained at a reasonable level. In the case of Vasanta Press, the net income of Rs. 659,077/- has resulted after taking into account the sale of surplus machinery for Rs. 1,300,000/-. The actual loss sustained in the Press was Rs. 640,923/- due to lower printing receipts and additional costs incurred on machinery repair and upkeep.

**B. Expenditure:**

The net expenditure of the Society for the year is Rs. 11,897,135/- and the broad details are as under:

Departments (Net Expenditure)	5,095,173
Charitable Work (including education)	1,645,743
Propagation of Theosophy	1,705,398
International Offices	574,358
Establishment	1,490,448
Other Expenses	329,917
Depreciation	<u>1,056,098</u>
	11,897,135

**1. Departments (Net Expenditure):**

The net expenditure of the departments for the year was Rs. 5,095,173/-, compared to Rs. 4,237,915/- for the previous year, an increase of Rs. 857,258/-. This is mainly due to increased expenses in the garden and maintenance departments. The details are as follows:

## TREASURER'S REPORT

	Year ended 31 March 2000 Rs	Year ended 31 March 1999 Rs	Increase/ Decrease  Rs
Bhojanasala & Leadbeater Chambers	182,994	256,045	-73,051
Garden	751,127	560,502	+190,625
Maintenance	<u>4,161,052</u>	<u>3,421,368</u>	<u>+739,684</u>
	5,095,173	4,237,915	+857,258

The net deficit in Bhojanasala and Leadbeater Chambers has been contained due to moderate revision of boarding and lodging rates effected during the year. However, the existing establishment and other operating costs in these departments cannot be recovered in full due to subsidized rates being charged to members and workers. Therefore, the deficit will continue in the coming years.

In respect of the Garden Department, the deficit for the year was Rs. 751,127/-, an increase of Rs. 190,625/- over the previous year. The running cost of maintaining the estate continues to rise and also additional development cost is being incurred to improve the ground water levels, clearing of antigonum and unwanted weeds, building up of nursery and creating an arboretum in Olcott Gardens.

The increased deficit in the Maintenance Department at Rs. 4,161,052/- was mainly due to major repairs and renovation work taken up during the year. These include decentralization of water supply in the main estate, renewal of electrical installations, construction of light-roof first floor structures for delegates attending Convention and repairs to other buildings such as Family Quarters, Olcott Cottage and Leadbeater Chambers. There is a continuous rise in the electricity tariff. In fact, cost of power constitutes one of the significant items of expense in this department.

### 2. Charitable Work

The amount spent on Charitable Work was Rs. 1,645,743/- as against Rs. 1,188,985/- for the previous year, an increase of Rs. 456,758/-. The running expenditure of the School, Hostel and Social Welfare Centre will go up considerably in the coming years as efforts are being made to improve the quality of education by recruiting qualified teachers at a higher scale. There is need to increase the corpus funds of the Society so that future costs can be met. Other charitable work includes animal welfare and employees' welfare-related expenses. It is expected that outlay on animal welfare work will go up, as this

Centre has commenced functioning recently, starting with the Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary.

### **3. Propagation of Theosophy:**

The expenditure on propagation of Theosophy for the year is Rs. 1,705,398/-, an increase of Rs. 494,925/- over the last year. This includes a sum of Rs. 704,049/- spent on the Adyar Library and Research Centre.

### **4. Other Costs:**

The overall cost of the Establishment and International Offices was Rs. 2,064,806/- as against Rs. 2,091,038/- for the previous year. Nearly half of this amount was spent on security as the estate is large and needs to be protected.

### **C. Capital Expenditure:**

During the year, the amount spent on Capital Account was Rs. 275,976/-. It mainly relates to addition of books in the library and other computer related equipment.

There are no major additions to buildings as the Maintenance Department was mainly doing renovation work in the previous year.

For the ensuing year, provision has been made to install a lift at Leadbeater Chambers, to construct a residential building in Besant Gardens and add to existing facilities at the Olcott School.

### **D. Funds:**

The overall financial position of the Society continues to be satisfactory. During the year, the Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund rose from Rs. 34,730,885/- to Rs. 40,923,632/- and Other Funds from Rs. 51,731,653/- to Rs. 60,530,121/-.

### **E. Acknowledgement:**

Our grateful thanks are due to members throughout the world for their continued support.

Chennai  
December 2000

D.K. Govindaraj  
Hony. Treasurer

## FEES AND DUES RECEIVED

**From 1 April 1999 to 31 March 2000 (in Rupees)**

Name of the Section	1998-99	1999-2000
The Theosophical Society in: Africa, East and Central.....	—	—
Africa, South.....	—	—
Africa, West.....	—	2,157
America, Central.....	684	684
Argentina.....	—	150,545
Asia, South-East.....	3,826	9,464
Australia.....	106,921	15,274
Austria.....	—	—
Belgium.....	26,738	27,449
Bolivia.....	17,737	8,959
Brazil.....	—	—
Canada.....	8,581	4,683
Chile.....	20,422	21,207
Colombia.....	—	—
Costa Rica.....	2,378	2,531
Cuba.....	—	—
Denmark.....	6,795	—
England.....	234,140	—
Finland.....	56,439	53,788
France.....	43,984	47,632
Germany.....	50,772	45,379
Greece.....	10,331	—
Hungary.....	2,322	—
Iceland.....	20,420	20,352
India.....	30,172	55,034
Indonesia.....	—	—
Ireland, North.....	—	—
Ireland, Republic of.....	4,137	—
Italy.....	416	61,640
Ivory Coast.....	—	—
Mexico.....	20,800	—
Netherlands, The.....	178,582	58,366
New Zealand.....	34,873	—
Norway.....	9,640	—
Pakistan.....	3,105	—
Peru.....	14,585	14,629
Philippines, The.....	—	—
Portugal.....	—	—
Puerto Rico.....	49,788	—

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, 2000

Name of the Section	1998-99	1999-2000
Russia.....	44,517	23,880
Scotland.....	11,632	—
Slovenia.....	4,139	4,332
Spain.....	30,098	36,293
Sri Lanka.....	692	—
Sweden.....	25,128	—
Switzerland.....	—	—
Togo.....	—	—
USA.....	401,519	379,153
Uruguay.....	25,368	22,019
Venezuela.....	3,173	3,028
Wales.....	1,256	1,764
Lodges attached to Adyar.....	8,883	17,077
Fellows at large.....	28,116	—
	<u>1,469,035</u>	<u>1,160,709</u>







As at 31-3-1999	LIABILITIES	Schedule No.	As at 31-3-2000	
Rs.			Rs.	Rs.
	<b>General Fund:</b>			
27,585,099	Balance as per last Balance Sheet		28,144,446	
511,425	Add: Transfer from Adyar Estate Improvement Fund		—	
—	Add: Transfer from Adyar Library Fund		111,968	
37,500	Add: Capital Receipts		—	
10,422	Add: Surplus for the Year		<u>275,347</u>	
28,144,446				28,531,76
34,730,885	<b>Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund</b>			40,923,63
51,731,653	<b>Other Funds</b>	5		60,530,12
4,213,746	<b>Current Liabilities and Provisions:</b>	6		4,517,96
118,820,730				134,503,4

CHENNAI  
15-11-2000

Schedule Numbers 1 to 6 and Notes on Accounts form part of the Balance Sheet. This is Balance Sheet referred to in our report of even date.

**D. K. GOVINDARAJ**  
*Hony. Treasurer*

**THE THEOSOPHICAL**  
**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

Year ended 31-3-1999	EXPENDITURE	Year ended 31-3-2000	
Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
	<b>Departments:(Net Expenditure)</b>		
256,045	Bhojanasala & Leadbeater Chamber	182,994	
560,502	Garden	751,127	
3,421,368	Maintenance	4,161,052	
4,237,915			5,095,173
	<b>Charitable Work:</b>		
110,053	Animal Welfare	113,342	
808,405	Education	1,219,029	
21,254	Welfare Grants	81,058	
157,050	Free Dispensary and Medical Aid	136,608	
58,600	School Fees and Books	56,800	
23,303	Social Welfare Work	16,766	
10,320	Others	22,140	
1,188,985		1,645,743	
42,483	<i>Less : Transfer from other Funds</i>	650,502	
1,146,502			995,241
	<b>Propagation of Theosophy:(Net Expenditure)</b>		
862,754	Adyar Library and Research Centre	704,049	
-50,345	The Theosophist and Adyar Newsletter	29,895	
169,639	Vasanta Press	—	
47,119	School of the Wisdom	91,747	
24,220	T. S. Worker's Training Camp	1,138	
7,118	Information and Public Relations	58,638	
140,290	Archives and Museum	151,170	
9,678	Theosophy Science Centre	27,837	
1,210,473		1,064,475	
24,220	<i>Less : Transfer from Other Funds</i>	32,744	
1,186,253			1,031,731
	<b>International Offices:</b>		
56,575	President and Vice-President	95,261	
255,217	Treasurer	277,581	
155,736	Secretary	201,516	
467,528			574,358
	<b>Establishment:</b>		
125,539	Headquarters	130,371	
77,873	General Manager's Office	65,985	
341,922	House Keeping Department	221,811	
191,059	Sanitation Department	151,059	
887,117	Security Department	921,222	
1,623,510			1,490,448
8,661,708	c / f		9,186,951

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2000

Year ended 31-3-1999	INCOME	Year ended 31-3-2000	
Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
	<b>Propagation of Theosophy:(Net Income)</b>		
465,459	The Theosophical Publishing House		693,497
	Vasanta Press		659,077
197,437	General Donations		185,361
7,832,702	Interest		7,731,021
1,469,035	Fees and Dues		1,160,709
84,000	License Fees		105,000
133,167	Miscellaneous Receipts		313,648
10,181,800	c / f		10,848,313

THE THEOSOPHICAL

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Year ended 31-3-1999	EXPENDITURE— <i>Contd</i>	Year ended 31-3-2000	
Rs. 8,661,708	b/f	Rs.	Rs. 9,186,951
	<b>Other Expenses:</b>		
6,379	Insurance	8,547	
42,520	Legal and Court Expenses	117,600	
49,661	Audit Fees	49,012	
128,472	Rates and Taxes	36,452	
7,227	Bank Charges	1,195	
1,161,536	Depreciation	1,056,098	
19,411	Motor Car Expenses	19,514	
94,464	Miscellaneous	97,597	
1,509,670			1,386,015
10,422	Surplus transferred to General Fund		275,347
10,181,800			10,848,313

CHENNAI  
15-11-2000



[illegible]

Notes on Accounts form part of this Accounts. This is the Income and Expenditure Account referred to in our report of even date.

**FRASER & ROSS**  
*Chartered Accountants*

**D. K. GOVINDARAJ**  
*Hony. Treasurer*

# THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

## BUDGET FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31-3-2002

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
	Rs.		Rs.
<b>Departments (Net Expenditure)</b>		<b>Propagation of Theosophy</b>	
Bhojanasala & Leadbeater Chambers	231,000	Theosophical Publishing House	360,000
Garden	877,000	General Donations	300,000
Maintenance	3,777,000	Interest	8,500,000
		Membership Fees & Dues	1,500,000
<b>Charitable Work</b>		Licence Fees	120,000
Animal Welfare	600,000	Miscellaneous Receipts	300,000
Education	1,800,000	Net Deficit	220,000
Welfare Grants	150,000		
Free Dispensary & Medical Aid	150,000		
TOS International	30,000		
School Fees and Books	80,000		
Social Welfare Work	24,000		
Others	36,000		
Transfer from Other Funds	(1,700,000)		
<b>Propagation of Theosophy</b>			
Adyar Library and Research Centre	1,054,000		
The Theosophist and Adyar Newsletter	19,000		
Vasanta Press	19,000		
School of the Wisdom	120,000		
Workers' Training Camp	18,000		
Information and Public Relations	90,000		
Archives and Museum	180,000		
Theosophy Science Centre	30,000		
<b>International Offices</b>			
President and Vice-President	100,000		
Treasurer	325,000		
Secretary	250,000		
<b>Establishment</b>			
Headquarters	150,000		
General Manager's Office	75,000		
Housekeeping Department	300,000		
Sanitation Department	180,000		
Security Department	1,000,000		
<b>Other Expenses</b>			
Insurance	20,000		
Legal Expenses	50,000		
Audit Fees	60,000		
Rates and Taxes	150,000		
Motor Car Maintenance	40,000		
Miscellaneous	110,000		
Depreciation	900,000		
Bank Charges	5,000		
	<u>11,300,000</u>		<u>11,300,000</u>

## HEADQUARTERS

### OFFICERS AND HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS FOR 2008

#### Chairman:

Mr K. S. S. S. S. S.

Mr Mary Anderson

Mr D. K. S. S. S.

Mr D. K. S. S. S.

Mr K. S. S. S. S.

Mr S. S. S. S. S.

Mr R. S. S. S.

Mr K. S. S. S.

President

Vice-President

Secretary

Treasurer

General Council Member

General Council Member

Secretary: Mr. S. S. S. S.

Secretary: Mr. S. S. S. S.

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## HEADQUARTERS

ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020  
INDIA

Secretary: Mr. S. S. S. S.

Secretary: Mr. S. S. S. S.

Secretary: Mr. S. S. S. S.

Secretary: Mr. S. S. S. S.

Secretary: Mr. S. S. S. S.

## ELCOTT EDUCATION SOCIETY

Chairman: President, IS

Secretary: Mr. K. P. S. S.

Treasurer: Mr. K. S. S. S.

Secretary: Mr. S. S. S. S.

Secretary: Mr. S. S. S. S.

Secretary: Mr. S. S. S. S.

Secretary: Mr. S. S. S. S.

Secretary: Mr. S. S. S. S.

Secretary: Mr. S. S. S. S.

Secretary: Mr. S. S. S. S.



## OFFICERS AND HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS FOR 2000

### Executive Committee:

1. Mrs Radha Burnier	<i>President</i>
2. Miss Mary Anderson	<i>Vice-President</i>
3. Mrs Dolores Gago	<i>Secretary</i>
4. Mr D.K. Govindaraj	<i>Treasurer</i>
5. Mr K. Visvanathan	<i>General Council Member</i>
6. Mr Surendra Narayan	<i>General Council Member</i>
7. Mr R.M. Tolani	
8. Mr K.P. Shenoy	

**General Manager:** Major Arjun Gopalaratnam

**Adyar Library:** *Director:* Dr K.K. Raja

*Librarian:* Mrs Parvati Gopalaratnam

**Bhojanasala:** Mrs Sudha Natarajan

**Garden:** Mr J. Suresh

**Housekeeping:** Mrs Radha Muthiah

**Information:** Mrs Helen Jamieson

**Leadbeater Chambers:** Mrs Uma Nilakanta

**Maintenance:** Mr Kousik Krishnan

**Medical Service:** Dr S.D. Inbaraj

**Museum and Archives:** Mr C.S. Raghavan

**School of the Wisdom:** *Directors:* Professor Robert Ellwood (Jan.-Feb. 2000)

Miss Joy Mills (Oct.-Dec. 2000)

**Security:** Mr D.V. Subramaniam

**Theosophical Publishing House:** *Manager:* Mr D.K. Govindaraj

**Vasanta Press:** Mr Harihara Raghavan

### OLCOTT EDUCATION SOCIETY

*Chairman:* President, TS

*Secretary:* Mr K.P. Shenoy

*Treasurer:* Mr K. Visvanathan

**Olcott Memorial School:** *Director:* Dr Aruna R.

*Headmistress:* Mrs Lakshmi Suryanarayana

**HPB Hostel:** Mr Ananta Padmanabhan

**Social Welfare Centre:** Mrs Radha Muthiah

**Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary:** Dr P.D. Jagannathan

**Vocational Training Centre for Women:** Mrs Lakshmi Narasimhan



## SUMMARY OF STATISTICS 2000

National Societies and Sections		No. of	
Regional Associations (formed under Rule 35(c))		Lodges and	No. of
		<u>Section/Area Study Centres Members</u>	
Presidential Agencies	9	26. Indonesia	10 229
Total Lodges and Study Centres	10,076	27. Ireland, North	1 20
Total Membership 1999	30,518	28. Ireland, Republic of	1 16
Total Membership 2000	31,121	29. Italy	53 1,322
No. of Lodges and	No. of	30. Ivory Coast	3 32
		31. Mexico	23 280
<u>Section/Area Study Centres</u>	<u>Members</u>	32. Netherlands	14 521
		33. New Zealand	15 1,122
1. Africa, East & Central	15 499	34. Norway	5 36
2. Africa, South	5 275	35. Pakistan	2 114
3. Africa, West	15 317	36. Peru	2 41
4. America, Central	3 20	37. Philippines	15 289
5. Argentina	34 314	38. Portugal	12 241
6. Asia, South-East	10 409	39. Puerto Rico	7 113
7. Australia	12 1,374	40. Russia	1 18
8. Austria	3 104	41. Scotland	9 209
9. Belgium	8 116	42. Slovenia	4 54
10. Bolivia	8 91	43. Spain	13 363
11. Brazil	34 903	44. Sri Lanka	8 132
12. Canada	5 130	45. Sweden	6 169
13. Chile	4 44	46. Switzerland	6 91
14. Colombia	8 71	47. Togo	2 30
15. Costa Rica	3 95	48. USA	120 4,675
16. Cuba	12 566	49. Uruguay	5 75
17. Denmark	1 37	50. Venezuela	2 21
18. England	39 994	51. Wales	2 34
19. Finland	26 520		1,074 31,022
20. France	29 398	<b>Lodges attached to Adyar</b>	
21. Germany	8 162	1. Covenant Lodge (Israel)	1 65
22. Greece	7 107	2. Japan	2 —
23. Hungary	1 37	3. Korea	1 25
24. Iceland	8 340	4. Fellows-at-Large	— 9
25. India	433 12,852		4 99

## THE THEOSOPHICAL PUBLISHING HOUSE

The objective of TPH, Adyar, is to propagate Theosophy at affordable costs. The year was marked by increased activity. The total number of publications brought out was 49, out of which 12 were new releases, 19 were new editions and 18 were reprints.

Notable publications of the year were Powell's series of books, *Sanātana Dharma* (Advanced Text-book) and *Science and the Sacred* by Prof. Ravi Ravindra.

Sales expanded during the year thanks to wider publicity, arrangements made with booksellers and distributors, and the cooperation of various Sections. We hope to enlarge the network of booksellers during the coming year. Magazines published in Adyar are gaining wider circulation. From time to time, annual subscribers are switching to life-subscriptions. Since November 2000, we are printing 3,000 copies of *The Theosophist*, 1,500 copies of *Wake Up India* and 750 copies of *Adyar Newsletter*. Effort is being made to further increase the number of subscriptions.

Our books were displayed in book fairs and exhibitions held in several Indian cities. The response from the public was gratifying. Though in some cases sales were not satisfactory, many people had the opportunity of knowing for the first time about the

Theosophical Society. Our experience shows that we must participate in future exhibitions in a big way.

As part of our dissemination strategy, complimentary books were sent to many Lodges, Sections, libraries and institutions in India and abroad, particularly some African and Latin American countries. We will continue to send complimentary books to needy areas and persons on recommendation and approval.

We regularly receive enquiries about our books, but they have now grown into a continuous stream partly due to information on our website. Through e-mail etc. we are effectively keeping pace with customer requirements.

Computerization of stocks, accounts and invoices is almost complete. The godown has been equipped with new metal racks.

Requests to use our copyrights or to translate our publications are often received and granted discriminately.

We plan to republish selectively more books that are in demand but have been out of print for some time. We are also exploring new areas where our publications are not known, locating reliable booksellers and distributors.

Mr D.K. Govindaraj  
Manager

## THE ADYAR LIBRARY AND RESEARCH CENTRE

We deeply regret the passing of Professor Thangaswami Sarma. For six years he rendered invaluable service to the Adyar Library as an honorary Professor on its staff. He was the author of several books in Sanskrit and a recipient of the Presidential Award for Merit in Sanskrit in 1994. He was responsible for a revised edition of *Chaturdaśalakshani* Part II, brought out by the Adyar Library. Generously, he made over the copyright of his Sanskrit works entitled *Mīmāṃsā Manjari* and *Bharatiya Darśaneshu Pratyaksha-Pramāna Vimarśah*.

The 1999 volume of the Adyar Library Bulletin (vol.63) came out and vol.64 is under preparation. Several reprints of texts that had been out of print were published.

As usual, we supplied copies of manuscripts and books to scholars and others: 53,551 frames were copied for them, in addition to 18,853 frames copied for the Library itself.

During the year, 2,671 books were added to the Library's collection. Out of these, 435 were purchased, 142 were gifts from the President, 75 were received from TPH Adyar, 10 from TPH Wheaton and the rest were received either in exchange or for review.

The computerization of the inventory of the Library is proceeding. The ongoing conservation and preservation work is also proceeding more or less at the same rate as before. A number of books were de-acidified and laminated, and others were bound.

Twelve scholars from Madras University and four from Andhra University, and various scholars from India and abroad made use of the Library's facilities. Among the distinguished visitors to the Library was Dr Karan Singh, former Minister in the Government of India.

Mrs Parvati Gopalaratnam  
Librarian

## THE SCHOOL OF THE WISDOM

As usual there were two sessions of the School of the Wisdom. The first one from 4 January to 18 February was directed by Dr Robert Ellwood, Professor Emeritus of Religion from the University of Southern California

and National Lecturer of the TS in America. The mornings were devoted to study and discussion of C.W. Leadbeater's *The Masters and the Path*. During the afternoon sessions various religions — Hinduism, Bud-

dhism, the religions of East Asia, Judaism, Christianity and Islam — were studied and discussed. Professor Ellwood himself specializes in the history of religion and has written a number of books that have appeared as Quest publications.

Thirty-seven students attended the session coming from Germany, Spain, Argentina, Switzerland, Singapore, USA and India. Each student was required to read *Masters and the Path* and make a classroom presentation on a relevant topic. The students were also asked to make presentations reflecting the research done by them on one of the given topics. These were all subjected to critique and discussion.

The second session was conducted from 31 October to 14 December by Miss Joy Mills, former Vice-President of the TS. This session was well attended by students from various parts of the world: 18 from India, 2 each from Brazil, Sweden, USA,

Korea, Chile, France and Italy, and 1 each from Germany, New Zealand, Australia and Peru. The subject was 'The Life Worth Living'. The three theosophical classics: *At the Feet of the Master*, *Light on the Path*, and *The Voice of the Silence* as well as selected passages from the letters of the Masters were studied in depth. Such questions as What is meant by the spiritual life?, Is it compatible with family duties, a career, with making money?, and Is there a life worth living in today's world? were explored.

Students of the School of the Wisdom always have the opportunity to attend Adyar Lodge meetings, do research in the Adyar Library, ponder and meditate in the serene atmosphere of Adyar and get acquainted with the activities and the departmental work in the international headquarters of the TS.

Mrs Dolores Gago  
*International Secretary*

## ARCHIVES AND MUSEUM

For lack of suitable staff, only routine work — correspondence, mostly related to enquiries — was carried on. Some visitors were allowed to see the Museum. During the Convention, as usual, delegates visited the department and viewed an exhibition, this year one on

fairies as depicted in theosophical literature. Conservation work continued on a part-time basis. A few important items were sent to the Conservation Institute in Lucknow for restoration.

Mr C.S. Raghavan  
*Acting Officer-in-Charge*

## OLCOTT EDUCATION SOCIETY

*Olcott Memorial High School:* The School term began as usual in June. There were 766 boys and girls in the ten classes. As the Government provided only part of the required textbooks, notebooks and uniforms for the children, the rest was provided to them by the Theosophical Society. We also enriched the noon meal by adding pulses and vegetables, and continued to give a nourishing breakfast. A successful attempt was made to create awareness in the students about cleanliness and, as a result, littering has been reduced and an improvement has taken place in other areas such as lavatories. Even in the classrooms we are working at reducing waste without compromising the quality of the work.

Intensive inputs in Tamil, mathematics, and English have been attempted in the mixed-age group classes, and there has been a satisfactory improvement in a considerable number of students who were then integrated into the normal classes. The use of the school library has also improved. An increased number of library periods and a friendly librarian have contributed to this.

The Junior Resource Room has become an effective aid to learning because of more equipment, teacher-generated games, and time given to

children. In the second term an audio-visual room started work with a tape recorder and cassettes in English. The student and teacher response is very positive.

The inclusion of teachers other than the physical training teacher, has added energy to the games activities. The students participated in tournaments and two of our alumni trained the children. One of them, Saritha, has joined the School as a teacher.

Teachers are making progress in discussing class management and are therefore doing their work with more understanding, and are more open to feedback, which helps them to adapt to student needs. They are working as a team and sharing the workload without undue stress. Miss Ahalya Chari and Mr G. Gautama have been giving guidance from time to time.

*HPB Hostel:* The Hostel had 27 students at the end of the year. Three of them have written the class XII examinations and five have written the class X examinations. Among the 27 students, there were four ten-year olds. Relations among them have improved, and was good considering the wide age difference. The smaller boys now feel more free to voice their opinions and



assert themselves, while the older students understand the significance of not using their strength against the younger ones.

The students need more support in academics. They have been more conscious about their studies and reports from the Olcott School testified to their good behaviour and performance.

The food was simple and nutritious. The students themselves clean the Hostel and help the cook, while the standard of personal hygiene was good. There is scope for improvement in the general orderliness of the Hostel.

The maintenance of the building and water supply to the Hostel need attention.

*Social Welfare Centre:* There were more than 100 pre-school children in the Centre. A health check-up of all the children was done by Dr R. Revathy. They had varied activities, such as a trip to the Scout Camping Centre in the TS for Nature study, preparing an entertainment programme for TS Convention delegates, taking part in the procession on Adyar Day to pay homage to Colonel Olcott, celebrating such days as Independence Day, Gandhi's birth anniversary, Sarasvati Puja and Pongal festivals. The tailoring and weaving sections prepared various items that were displayed and sold during the TS Convention. Two special events were

conducted for the parents and sweets were distributed to the children on special days.

*Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary:* This is a new unit of the Olcott Education Society that started functioning on 16 July 2000 after the Blue Cross of India vacated the part of the TS estate meant for animal welfare work. On six and a half days of the week it is open for treating sick animals, vaccinating them against rabies, distemper, etc., and advising owners about the care of their animals. The animal enclosures have been enlarged and an open area with wire fencing has been provided for them. The general maintenance, cleanliness and hygiene has been improved, and the surgical theatre has been sterilized. All this was necessary, as the previous occupants had been neglectful. The number of animals treated from 16 July to 31 March 2001 was 8,286 and the general response of animal owners has been very favourable. Donations have been forthcoming. We expect to start some surgical work during the coming year.

*Vocational Training Centre:* A six-month course was given from June to December 2000 for twelve young women in housekeeping and home management. The syllabus included housekeeping in general, nutrition and food preparation, first-aid and home nursing, care of children

and old people, personality development, basic tailoring and fabric care, herbal remedies and the aesthetics of home management, some yoga exercises and meditation.

Five trips were made to other institutions and places of interest to expose the students to various aspects

of life, such as an exhibition on indigenous medicines and a centre of traditional art and architecture. At the end of the course a certificate was given to the students by the President of the TS.

Mr K.V. Srinivasan

*Secretary, Olcott Education Society*

## THE THEOSOPHICAL ORDER OF SERVICE

The TOS is functioning dynamically in Australia, France, India, Italy, Kenya, Pakistan, the Philippines and the USA. It is active to a lesser degree in Argentina, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, El Salvador, England, Indonesia, New Zealand, Peru, Puerto Rico, Scotland, Sweden and Uruguay.

Mr Fernando Perez Martin, Spanish language coordinator, prepares the Spanish pages for *The Service Link*, the international magazine of the TOS, and continues to do much to stimulate work in Latin America, besides directing the TOS work in Spain.

During the year, donations were made through the international TOS to the TOS Endowment Funds in India and Pakistan, the Animal Welfare Fund at Adyar, for cyclone relief in Orissa, and to an orphanage for street children in Guntur, South India.

In Kenya, more than six tons of foodstuffs were distributed to homes for children and old people, as reported

by Mr H.R. Doshi, National Director. A large cash donation was made to the National Famine Relief Fund. Other activities include educational sponsorship for children, running yoga and meditation classes, and holding healing sessions in Nairobi.

In Australia, Georgina Fode, National Director, publishes a newsletter which recommends causes for which donations might be made. Amnesty International, Austcare, and TOS work in Pakistan, India and the Philippines have been supported.

In France, funds have been raised to support more than a hundred underprivileged children and Tibetan refugees in India. The National Director, Mrs P. Domer, dispatches large quantities of clothing and medicines to suitable places in India, West Africa, etc.

Dozens of TOS groups are operating in India under the direction of Mrs Saraswati Narayan, principally focusing on health care, education for

the poor, mobility for the handicapped, and crisis relief. A new introductory brochure has helped to make known to members the activities they can take up. The National Secretary, Mr P.K. Jayaswal, has been visiting various regions and stimulating the groups.

In Italy around thirty active groups are involved in Meditation for World Peace, sponsoring education of underprivileged children, providing assistance to the sick and the elderly, and collaborating with the Vegetarian Society in the country.

The TOS in Pakistan runs a sponsorship programme for more than 380 students and handles the work of the Save the Children Fund. Two free medical clinics are being run in the slum areas of Karachi and work is done to create awareness of the plight of animals, in collaboration with the Pakistan Animal Lovers Society.

In the Philippines there is an intensive rehabilitation programme for malnourished children. It includes vocational training and interest-free loans to parents. Several activities have been started to help children of all ages. Much networking is done with government and international agencies.

The TOS in the US has seven active departments: Animal Welfare, Arts and Music, Ecology, Family, Healing, Peace and Social Service. Through its journal *For the Love of Life* information is shared and recommendations made. The Animal Welfare Department publishes its own newsletter, *All Creation*, which has a wide readership and campaigns actively through petitions, letter writing, and so forth.

Mrs Diana Dunningham Chapotin  
*International Secretary*



**REPORTS OF  
SECTIONS, NATIONAL SOCIETIES,  
REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS,  
PRESIDENTIAL REPRESENTATIVES, ETC.**

**(Where necessary, reports have been translated,  
edited or condensed.)**





## REPORTS OF THE SECTIONS

## AFRICA, EAST AND CENTRAL

The East and Central African Section comprises Lodges in four countries and had a membership of 499 on 30 September 2000. It is attracting the indigenous people in Kenya and Zambia, but the emigration of Asians has affected Tanzania. An effort is being made to increase the quality of membership.

Kenya has six active Lodges, in Nairobi, Nakuru, Mombasa, Kisumu, Voi, and Meru. There are also three active Centres in Kissi, Nyeri, and Nyahururu. In Tanzania the only active Lodges are at Dar es Salaam and Moshi. In Zambia too there are two active Lodges at Mufulira and Kitwe; four other Lodges at Kabwe, Ndola, Lusaka and Livingstone are partially active. Nile Lodge in Kampala, Uganda, meets once every week since it was revived.

Most Lodges celebrated the important days of the theosophical calendar and had a variety of programmes, including lectures, meditation sessions, meetings in Gujarati, etc. The National Lecturer primarily addressed schools and educational institutions in Kenya and visited places in Kenya where there are no Lodges.

*The Theosophist* is being distributed to State libraries and

universities. All enquirers receive introductory pamphlets. Debates and competitions on theosophical subjects are arranged in secondary schools, and two Lodges have been advertising in the newspapers on suitable occasions. All the regions have bookstalls that are well stocked.

Nairobi, Mufulira and Kitwe Lodges have their own buildings and they are a great asset to the Section.

The Theosophical Order of Service is active in several places. In Nairobi, food, clothing, schoolbooks, medicine, etc., were distributed to coincide with the Foundation Day of the TS and the 80th anniversary of Nairobi Lodge. Six tons of foodstuffs and second-hand clothes were donated to nine children's homes and other charitable institutions. The practice of sponsoring students' education fees continues.

In Dar es Salaam blankets and food were distributed regularly to the needy and to patients in the cancer hospital. Fees were paid to help bright students from economically backward families. In Voi help is given for medical treatment. The Healing Ritual is performed at Nairobi and Dar es Salaam.

The All Africa Theosophical Convention was held at Nairobi for five days from 20 to 24 October

2000 with 98 delegates from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia, South Africa and West Africa, and a few visitors from Brazil, England and India. The guest speakers were our International President, Mrs Radha Burnier, and Prof. P. Krishna, Rector of the Krishnamurti Foundation's Education Centre at Varanasi. Lady Justice Joyce Aluoch, Judge of the High Court of Kenya, was the guest of honour at the opening of the Convention, which took place in the presence of about 300 invited guests. During the Convention 34 diplomas, including 15 of members in Nile Lodge, Uganda, were presented to new

members. Books worth more than US \$ 1,000/- were sold while some books were also donated to two institutions for their libraries, and to two upcoming Lodges. A leading daily newspaper, *The Daily Nation*, published a two-page supplement on the Convention, as a result of which we received more than 250 enquiries. A historical decision was taken to form the Pan-African Theosophical Federation and to hold conventions every six years. Mr Tom Davis, General Secretary for Southern Africa, was appointed Coordinator.

Mr H.G. Devani  
General Secretary

## AFRICA, SOUTHERN

In December 1999 the General Secretary and some other members attended the World Parliament of Religions in Cape Town. Behind the Southern African TS banner Theosophists from several countries joined us in the mass march of the religious groups. The General Secretary gave a presentation on the history of the TS in Southern Africa and other members participated in other programmes. We shared the bookstall with the Point Loma group.

The Durban Convention was well attended by delegates from all the

Lodges in South Africa. The lectures were generally of a very good quality. We offer hearty thanks to the Durban Lodge for all their hard work and hospitality.

Our TOS work continued with much counselling for people with serious difficulties. We have also made donations to organizations involved in work that we support. Our European representative living in Austria obtained and sent large quantities of clothing to Bosnia and Rumania.

Membership has been steadily increasing over the past six years,

from 236 to 275. This is due to the sterling efforts of the Lodges and their dedicated committees. We report the sad loss of Anna Bischoff, who was General Secretary for ten years.

In March 1998, the TS in America kindly inserted a page of information about our Section on their worldwide web site. Now Johannesburg Lodge also has a web site. Because of the rapidly deteriorating postal service it has become necessary to communicate by e-mail, fax or phone.

We have Lodges in Pretoria, where weekly activities and public meetings take place; Johannesburg, which has improved markedly; Durban, which is a very stable Lodge with weekly programmes, excellent lectures and

study groups; Cape Town Lodge, which has made good progress this year; and Harare Lodge with 5 members who meet informally in Lynn Morgan's home. Besides these, there is a Centre in Lenasia and one in Knysna.

During the past two years we have improved publicity by advertising, distributing pamphlets, improving the quality of Lodge programmes, presentations on television and radio, arranging talks at non-TS venues, and creating video and audio libraries. I would like to express gratitude to all my colleagues.

Mr T.G. Davis  
*General Secretary*

## AFRICA, WEST

The four English-speaking countries of Ghana, Nigeria, Cameroon and Liberia, which form the West African Section, have serious economic problems affecting the induction of new members. Some members have not been able to pay their annual dues for two years, but because they have interest and attend meetings and conferences, they have been given time to settle their dues.

There are 15 Lodges and 12 study centres, with a total of 317 members, out of which 180 are in Ghana, 101 in

Nigeria, 30 in Cameroon, and 6 in Liberia.

The Executive Council has a special action plan to spread theosophical ideas. A five-year financial programme was initiated and members were urged to contribute voluntarily to the investment programme.

Three public lectures were held at the headquarters in Accra, and among the topics was 'Man's Inherent Divinity and Its Unfoldment to Perfection', which was very well attended. The annual convention was held on 1 and 2 July 2000 at the

Section's headquarters in Accra with the theme 'The Inner Man and the Evolving Universe'. Such topics as 'Man and His Bodies', 'From Man to Superman', 'Scientific Discoveries and the Great Plan', and 'Woman's Role in Evolution' were discussed. There was a workshop on 'Occultism, Pseudo-Occultism, Magic and Voodooism'. A workers' course took place from 4 to 6 March 2000, also at the headquarters, to discuss the Society's task and role in the 21st century. A weekend seminar was held at the University of Science and Technology in Kumasi.

*The Theosophist* was sent to national and regional libraries, universities, polytechnics, institutions of higher learning, women's organizations, professional bodies and media houses in Ghana, Nigeria, Cameroon and Liberia. Some TS books and copies of *The Theosophist* were also donated to Ghana's House

of Parliament. These donations have had an impact on the reading public and we will ask for another year's supply in order to have a wider reach.

Increased publicity and advertisements resulted in better attendance at public lectures.

The Territorial Secretary in Nigeria, Mr G.O. Olubi, has reported that all three Lodges and eight study centres in Nigeria are functioning, but with fewer members, owing to economic difficulties. Information leaflets and membership application forms have been sent to the Secretary of Slater Lodge in Monrovia, Liberia, in order to build up the TS activities there.

Plans are afoot to construct a first floor on the headquarters building in Accra. Donations will be welcome.

Mr Paul B. Kwakyi  
General Secretary

## ARGENTINA

The Theosophical Colony in San Rafael was renamed The Theosophical Centre in San Rafael from September onwards. Their 37th summer school took place there from 15 to 22 January. The subjects taken up were: 'The Mystery of Human Nature and Its Seven Principles' and 'Theosophy: Theory and Practice',

both under the direction of Mr Juan Viñas. Besides this there was a camp that included a speakers' course and the study of the three fundamental propositions of *The Secret Doctrine*. The twentieth anniversary of the Centre was commemorated in July by a silent retreat directed by Mr Juan Cassibba and Mrs Paulina Palmeri



based on the third fragment of *The Voice of the Silence*. Our winter school was on 'The Nature of Our Thinking Principle', coordinated by Estéban Langlois, with the collaboration of Luis Spairani and Juan Carlos Palmeri.

The headquarters in Buenos Aires had as usual public lectures, courses, and studies on the *Bhavadgītā* for young members. Circles for Peace of the Theosophical Order of Service met regularly. Similar programmes took place in other major towns such as Cordoba, Rio Cuarto, Rosario, and San Lorenzo.

In various Lodges seminars were organized. In Rio Cuarto the study theme was 'Suffering' with reference to the First Noble Truth of the Buddha and the second section of the *Yoga Sūtras*. The Young Theosophists discussed 'Our Work Towards Liberation'. In Rosario there was a seminar on 'The Spiritual Life', and in Buenos Aires the theme was 'The Technique of the Spiritual Life'.

Paulina and Juan Carlos Palmeri lectured in Chile, Brazil, Peru and Bolivia, in the last two of which Juan Cassibba also participated. We received a visit from Mrs Terezinha Kind, who conducted seminars in Rosario and Buenos Aires.

We also received the visit of the International President, Mrs Radha Burnier, accompanied by Mr Alfredo Puig, President of the Inter-American Federation, who was the translator. The National Council discussed administrative issues in a specially arranged meeting with the President. The President visited Rosario and Buenos Aires and gave talks that were well attended.

During the Annual Assembly, which took place in San Rafael, four coordinators were elected to do work with the young, each with a different area of responsibility. The Young Theosophists owning computers had Internet discussions about the writings of Radha Burnier on the work of the TS. The young members participated in various activities of other kinds, among which was the formation of a Virtual Lodge with some twenty participants communicating electronically with each other. Throughout the year courses were given through Internet on 'The Plan of Evolution' with the participation of Mr Juan Viñas. The Internet was also used to disseminate Theosophy, particularly what HPB had said on the mind.

Mr Jorge Cesano  
General Secretary

## AUSTRALIA

Melbourne Lodge hosted a successful annual Convention from 15 to 22 January 2000 with Mr Pedro Oliveira as principal speaker, the theme being 'Consciousness and Evolution'. Mr Oliveira joined the staff at headquarters on a full-time basis and is a Lecturer of the Section. Mr Dai Trandang is a volunteer worker at headquarters.

The Campbell Theosophical Research Library is a special reference library used by members and non-members. It has its own web site and has produced an Index of Periodicals on CD-Rom, which will also be put on the TS web site.

I gave talks at several theosophical centres as well as at the above-mentioned Convention and the School of Theosophy in Springbrook. Ed and Mary Abdill, from New York, toured the Section and lectured in eight centres.

The School of Theosophy was attended by students from most states. Each year we grant financial assistance to several Indo-Pacific students to attend the School. This year we welcomed one student from Bangladesh and two from New Zealand. The importance of these annual schools in preparing future theosophical speakers is becoming increasingly evident.

Linda Oliveira, Education Co-ordinator, has spoken at various TS centres and provided educational material to Lodges and groups. Our correspondence course is still very popular.

Our beautiful Springbrook Centre in Southern Queensland continues to delight those who attend one of the many programmes organized during the year. A large and beautiful property in the Southern Highlands of New South Wales has been generously donated to the Section by Mr Bill Bolitho. Work has commenced on developing the partly constructed house on the property.

The Annual Fund has been used this year for magazine advertisements and to publicize talks by visiting lecturers. The generous donations of members to this Fund, matched dollar for dollar by the Section, is used for implementing new and innovative projects.

Our web site is well patronized by users from this country and abroad. It will be expanded to include selected items from the national magazine. Our promotional theosophical leaflets have taken on a fresh look and are printed on recycled gloss paper.

As of 31 August 2000 our membership stood at 1,374 including 124 National Members. Each year

almost three times the amount of the membership fees is returned either directly or indirectly to the members in the shape of leaflets, grants to attend the Convention and School of Theosophy, production of *Theosophy in Australia*, travel expenses of speakers, etc.

Georgina Fode of Melbourne Lodge continues as National Director of the TOS. During the year the national TOS supported the educational activities of the TOS in Pakistan, the Olcott Memorial School and HPB Hostel at Adyar, and the TOS work in the Philippines and in Africa. The national body has also supported Amnesty International and other philanthropic organizations. Besides what the national TOS does, TOS groups in the states have their own activities.

Dianne Hames of Adelaide Lodge is in charge of the Round Table work for children. There are two active Tables, one in Adelaide and the other in Sydney, which introduced theosophical concepts to the young. It is

planned to start a new group in Melbourne.

The Section has 12 Lodges, 7 Certified Groups, some discussion groups, and a Theosophy-Science Group. Besides the Centre in Queensland, we have the Mount Helena Centre in Western Australia and the Manor Centre in Sydney.

We regretfully decided to close Toowoomba Lodge and sell the property.

The Theosophy-Science Group produces a Newsletter three or four times a year, which is sent to libraries and individual members on request. Local groups meet in Sydney and Adelaide. A seminar was held in July at the Manor with participants from most States and New Zealand.

Although the TS has no creed or ritual, HPB told us that our creed could be Loyalty to Truth and our ritual To Honour Every Truth by Use.

Mrs Beverly Champion  
*National President*

## BELGIUM

No Report.

## BRAZIL

The total number of members at the end of the year was 903, showing

an increase of 17 over the previous year. Two new study groups were

formed and two others reactivated. One Lodge was dissolved. Due to a financial crisis in the country, we continue the policy of receiving annual dues in monthly instalments and, in special cases, exempting the dues. An Annual Dues National Fund was created to subsidize the dues of members who are unable to pay. The National Board meets regularly, apart from which there are five Regional Councils. Internet facilities provide complete information about all our activities. At present we have eleven virtual members.

Among the regional meetings we might mention the 19th summer school held in January in Gramado with the theme 'Living to Help Humanity — Self-knowledge and Ethics in the Third Millennium'; the 7th winter seminar in July at the Theosophical Institute in Brasilia with the theme 'The Light of the Lotus'; and the 6th International School, also in July, in the Theosophical Institute on 'A Comparative Study of Religions from the East and West in the Light of Theosophy' with Dr Richard Brooks from the USA as guest lecturer. Dr Brooks also directed a workshop on 'I am Dead! Now What?'

The International President Mrs Radha Burnier gave a public lecture in Brasilia at the beginning of September on 'Time and Transformation' and another one on 'Life — Our Great

Teacher'. She also led a workshop for members on 'Truth and the Three Objects of the TS', and another one on 'The Divine Plan'.

Other events took place in the Raja Centre near São Paulo, including lectures by the International President when she visited our Section in September. Travelling lecturers visited Lodges and Study Groups regularly.

A series of pamphlets have been used for promotional work and have been available to Lodges and Groups. All lectures and seminars are filmed and presented in four television channels. They are also distributed to Rio de Janeiro, Curitiba and other places. The sale of videotapes is expanding.

The Publication House in Brazil published several new books, including new editions of *At the Feet of the Master*, *Light on the Path*, *The Idyll of the White Lotus*, etc. Our quarterly magazine, *Theosophia*, is regularly published. Two thousand copies are distributed.

A nursery in the Theosophical Institute in Brasilia looks after fourteen children needing care, and is supported by members. It is under the care of Zeneida Cereja da Silva, assisted by other voluntary workers.

Mr Ricardo Lindemann  
General Secretary

## COLOMBIA

Public lectures were given by a group of twelve lecturers. In Bogotá there are four Lodges and one Study Group. The other Lodges are in Medellín, Bucaramanga, and Guayaquil in Ecuador. Workshops are being held on various subjects. The theosophical red-letter days were celebrated. The International President visited Bogotá from 26 to 29 August 2000 and conducted a meeting for members on the meaning

of being a member of the TS, and delivered public lectures on 'Life — Our Great Teacher' (in the Jorge Tadeo Lozano University) and two others on 'The Divine Plan' and 'A New Mind for a New Era' in the TS at Bogotá. A bimonthly selection of articles from *The Theosophist* by Mr. Gabriel Burgos Suarez is brought out in Spanish.

Mrs Nelly Medina  
*General Secretary*

## CUBA

The principal event of the year was the visit of our International President, Sister Radha Burnier, from 18 to 23 August 2000, during which she gave two public lectures on 'Time and Transformation' and 'A New Mind for a New Era', and three talks for members on 'The Significance of Being a Member of the TS', 'The Principles of Theosophical Work' and 'Truth and the Three Objects of the TS'.

The building of the Section headquarters in Havana was painted mostly by the members and even by participants in the Basic Course who had not yet joined the Society. The President's lectures were well attended, and during this her third visit all the lectures were recorded and

the transcriptions will be sent to the Lodges and kept in the Library. Hence this was the best possible celebration of the 50th anniversary of the construction of the headquarters building.

From 7 to 10 November 1999 we received the visit of Mr Jan Nicolaas Kind and his wife Terezinha, who gave public lectures on 'A Movement in Action', 'The Value of Silence' and 'Daily Practice of the Spiritual Life', as well as a talk for members on 'The Message of HPB'. The four days of their visit have left an indelible memory and we hope that they will repeat the visit soon. We were happy that Terezinha accompanied our President Radha in August.



The work of the Cuban Section proceeded along the same lines as before. Foundation Day was celebrated. The annual Convention took place from 21 to 23 January based on *The Mahatma Letters* and *The Mahachohan's Letter*. Other special theosophical days were also commemorated in Havana City.

During the period of the report Lodges studied mainly *Esoteric Buddhism*; *The Ancient Wisdom*; *Man, God and the Universe*; *A Study in Consciousness* and other classics. The Lodge studies are conducted in a series. For example, a series on Karma in the light of HPB's statements in *The Secret Doctrine*, and another on *The Seven Rays*. In Havana, Krishnamurti's *Truth and Reality* has been studied and also *The Flight of the Eagle*.

The basic course on Theosophy continued in Havana. The public programmes had various themes, some of the principal ones being: 'Ahimsa', 'Occultism in *The Arabian Nights*', 'Solitude and Silence', 'Mind and Heart', 'Liberation from Desire', 'The Doctrine of Symbols', 'Love in the Life of Man', 'The Yoga of Motherhood', 'Buddha and Buddhism', etc.

In March a training course for theosophical speakers was started and took place every fifteen days with practical exercises for members from different Lodges. All the students had to present one of HPB's occult stories to demonstrate what they had learned.

Mr Gaspar Torres  
General Secretary

## ENGLAND

A more optimistic tone, in general, permeated activities in our headquarters at 50 Gloucester Place, London, during the past twelve months. Some 35 public lectures were held on Sunday evenings. Attendance at lectures during the year averaged between 30 and 40, an improvement on the previous year's totals. There were also 14 seminars and study days, with an average attendance of 20. Three study days were devoted to *The*

*Secret Doctrine*. The activity in our library increased and writers and students continue to use the library for their research.

Three courses continue to form the basis of the London headquarters programme, namely, 'Theosophy: Way to Self-discovery'; 'The Joy of Meditation'; and 'The Secret Doctrine'. Krishnamurti videos were shown during the autumn and winter terms, and a course on 'The Jewel of

Kabala' was held between February and June. The National President continued the study of 'Religion through the Ages' and led a course on the esoteric teachings of 'The Book of Revelations'. The open forum 'Modern Society in Spiritual Crisis' began in June and was carried on into autumn. There were other short courses during the year. Headquarters and Blavatsky Lodge together commemorated important theosophical dates.

The Section played host to several international speakers. In May and June the International Vice-President, Miss Mary Anderson, spoke in seven cities. The former International Vice-President, Miss Joy Mills, also lectured in some cities. Historian Michael Gomes gave a lecture at the summer school and spoke in some other places.

More than 80 resident-delegates and a few day visitors participated in the annual summer school held at the College of Ripon and York in north Yorkshire. Three residential weekends took place in Tekels Park: one on *The Secret Doctrine* in November, a spiritual retreat in February and a Theosophy-Science conference in June, all of which were fully booked. The Southern Federation arranged weekend events on 'Scientific Mysticism and Onward into the Future' in October. The North-west Federation met during a long weekend in May, having as its theme 'Theosophy and Yoga'.

The Section has continued to regenerate itself and move forward.

Mr Colin Price  
*National President*

## FINLAND

The annual Convention was held in Kreivilä on 13-14 May. The summer school of 2000 also took place in Kreivilä and was well attended, with Prof. Ravi Ravindra as the guest speaker. It has now become a tradition to organize local summer schools in different towns. In June a summer school was also held outside Tallinn in Estonia.

Regular public lectures took place at the headquarters in Helsinki, this

year with the second object of the Society as the main topic. Lecturers presented their views of different religions, which were much appreciated by the public. Lectures were also given from a theosophical point of view in the Toolo Library in Helsinki in cooperation with sister organizations.

Work goes on in different towns as usual. A special effort to enliven the work in Kotka was made by holding a

seminar. Members from other Lodges came to support the meeting.

The library at the headquarters in Helsinki is open twice a week and the libraries of other Lodges are also open regularly. Several translations of English books are being prepared for

publication, including *The Occult World* and three brochures from Naarden.

At the end of September the number of members was 520.

Mr Yrjo Kumila  
General Secretary

## FRANCE

The membership of the French Section has again decreased slightly. Fourteen Lodges have been working regularly. The main poles of activity were Paris, where our headquarters is located, and Marseilles, which has also premises for the meetings of its three Lodges.

In Paris four Lodges and three groups met regularly. Every Saturday there was a course on 'Basic Theosophy', 'The Great Religions', and 'Theosophy for Beginners'. Public lectures were held twice a month, and there were three weekend seminars. In Marseilles Lodges met weekly and public lectures took place fortnightly. The Lodges in Brittany, Orleans, Reims, and Le Mans have regular monthly meetings, while two other Lodges have some activity.

The General Secretary made many contacts in the provinces and we are happy to report that small groups are forming. The Lodge

Fraternité in Rouen is able to hold regular meetings from October 2000 after two visits of the General Secretary brought in some new members. In Paris Lodge St Jean will be revived after several years of non-activity.

Our magazine *Le Lotus Bleu*, which covers the activities in the French-speaking Sections of France, Belgium and Switzerland, was issued ten times during the year. It also goes out to some public libraries and non-members. Our publishing house Editions Adyar brought out a translation of I. K. Taimni's *Gāyatri*. The bookshop was open to the public five days a week.

TOS was active in arranging sponsorships for Tibetan monks and students in India, students in the Olcott school, and an orphanage in Calcutta. Several French members participated in the summer school for Latin countries, organized by the Belgian Section at the Naarden

Centre in July, with participants from Italy, the Netherlands, Russia and Portugal besides the French-speaking members. The theme was 'The Search for Truth', which

resulted in deep and inspiring insights.

Mrs Danielle Audoin  
*General Secretary*

## GERMANY

The annual summer school was again held this year from 22 to 26 July 2000 at Lippstadt with about 50 participants. The theme was 'Approaches to Self-knowledge and Attentiveness', and the guest of honour was Dr Yves Marcel from France. His talk was followed by a practical demonstration of mindful and attentive walking. Participants were very appreciative of these helpful exercises of living in the present, here and now. From outside the Section came the Dutch General Secretary and some Swiss members. The evening programmes included sacred dance, a slide presentation about Nicholas Roerich, and an introduction to a German book on the Dalai Lama.

Work and meetings in Lodges continued regularly. Although lectures are still being given, study classes with discussions have become the rule. This type of work involves homework and a spirit of tolerance and cooperation.

The weekend meetings in the north of Germany take place once in spring and again in autumn, with an average attendance of 17 and 22, consisting of both members and sympathisers. The weekend meetings in south Germany previously held at Stuttgart could not yet be revived.

Our magazine, which goes to German-speaking areas in Europe and Namibia (Africa), is edited by a team. With new members replacing the old ones who have passed away or resigned, our membership now stands at 162. The number of reliable workers is limited, but fortunately there is good cooperation, which helps to overcome difficulties.

TOS work in Germany is done individually with several members visiting the aged and handicapped in homes, reading and writing for blind people, and supporting Tibetan monks and scholars.

Mrs Elisabeth Schmidt  
*General Secretary*

## GREECE

All our Lodges have worked regularly except Blavatsky Lodge, which has suspended its activities. All lectures and speeches were in accordance with theosophical concepts. Substantial work was done on comparative study.

Some part of our work appears in our magazine *Ilisos*, which promotes theosophical ideas and is distributed to nearly one thousand persons.

Some activity has begun in the field of publication and a rather

successful effort has been made to activate more members.

During the annual general meeting new rules were approved, and the General Secretary and Board were elected.

In the first three months (May-July) the new management made substantial progress in all the fields of activity. The turmoil within the Section has ended and a brotherly spirit has been restored.

Mr Georgios P. Sivris  
*General Secretary*

## ICELAND

The activities of the Icelandic Section have been going on harmoniously, as in previous years, with a variety of weekly programmes. From the beginning of October up to White Lotus Day, which traditionally marks the end of the winter programme, lectures, group discussions, as well as meditation classes for beginners and advanced students took place. Public meetings were held in Reykjavik on Friday evenings with lectures and discussion panels attracting some 40 to 60 persons. On Saturday afternoons we have Open House with short lectures on a particular subject followed by discussions with 10 to 20 persons

attending. On Sundays we have a meditation hour with instruction for beginners. On Monday and Tuesday evenings study groups read and discuss books of interest. On Wednesday evenings the advanced meditation group meets in silence.

The summer school was held from 29 June to 3 July at Laugarvatn with a tight programme of lectures, discussions and meditation, beginning at 8.15 a.m. and going on into the late summer night. Prof. Ravi Ravindra visited our Section from 29 June to 5 July and was the guest speaker at the summer school. He gave several lectures and conducted dialogues during his short visit, which were



found very interesting, being both informative and spiritual.

Three Lodges are active outside Reykjavik and meet either monthly or twice a month. One of them has its own premises. We feel that public interest in the TS is growing and activity within the Section is very lively.

The Section magazine *Gangleri* was published in fall and spring as usual. Although there was a slight

decline in subscriptions, the subscribers continue to be thrice as many as the members, the latter numbering 356 at present. Our Newsletter *Mundilfari* was published three times during the year.

At a general meeting held on 7 May this year, Jón L. Arnalds was re-elected as General Secretary, with a Board of four other members.

Mr Jón L. Arnalds  
General Secretary

## INDIA

Dr J. M. Amin of Gujarat presided over our 109th annual Convention at Adyar, which was inaugurated by the International President, Radhaji. In her address she brought to our attention what Annie Besant had said about living the theosophical teachings and not simply being members of the TS. She also released the Malayalam translation by Bro. K. Dinakaran of AB's booklet *The Theosophic Life*. Later on there was a symposium on 'Awakened India in the Next Millennium'.

Computerization of membership figures is making good progress and is expected to be fully operational next year. The total membership on 30 September 2000 was 12,699. Of the 429 Lodges/Centres, 59 are inactive. The Section lost several

long-time workers and members, including Mrs Tara Kulkarni, who lived in the Section's headquarters for many years; Mr D.V. Syamala Rao, who worked at international headquarters for several decades; and Mr A. Sabry, who had been international Treasurer.

All the Federations held their annual conferences. The International President presided over the conferences of the Karnataka, MP and Rajasthan, and UP Federations, besides directing the North Indian and South Indian study camps. The International Vice-President, Miss Mary Anderson, was the chief guest at the Assam and Rayalaseema Federation conferences. The International Secretary presided over the Kerala Federation conference, and I myself

over the Marathi Federation conference.

The Assam, Kerala, Marathi and Karnataka Federations are continuing their effort to make Theosophy known to more and more people. A month-long tour was undertaken by Bro. C. A. Shinde, President of the Marathi Federation with Dr A. Kannan who lectured in many Lodges.

Sri Krishna Lodge in Amaravati in the Marathi Federation celebrated its centenary in September with retired Justice C. Dharmadhikari as the guest speaker. Other Lodges organized, besides their normal programmes, elocution competitions for schools, essay contests, lectures for students and teachers etc. to present theosophical ideas.

Bro. H. Nagappa of Molakalmuru in Karnataka gave prior intimation to invitees to his son's wedding that only theosophical books will be accepted as gifts. He arranged the sale of these books in the wedding hall in order to start a library for the public. This was a new initiative which others could follow.

The Ahmedabad Lodge in Gujarat, which functions in a basement, lost all its library books on account of heavy rain. We are grateful to TPH Adyar for donating a complete set of its publications in response to their appeal.

A panel of four national lecturers was constituted with Bros S.V. Tyagi, A. Kannan, N.C. Ramanujachary and

P. K. Jayaswal. Bro. Tyagi spoke at several conferences, conducted seven study camps and visited a number of Lodges in seven Federations. Dr A. Kannan made an extensive tour of the Marathi Federation and lectured at a number of Lodges in six Federations. Bro. N. C. Ramanujachary directed a week-long study at the Indian Section headquarters and another three-week course at Bhowali besides some other study camps. Bro. P. K. Jayaswal also conducted study camps and lectured in five Federations.

Delhi Federation participated in a book fair held in the city in February 2000, when Rs. 3 lakhs came in as sales proceeds. The Gujarat Federation organized a book fair in the premises of the Bhavnagar Lodge.

The publication of books in local languages is necessary to make Theosophy known to a larger number. Therefore, the Section has been giving grants to Federations to meet part of the expenditure. The Assam Federation published translations of AB's *The Seven Principles of Man*, *Karma*, *The Laws of the Higher Life*, and *The Theosophic Life*, and five publicity pamphlets. Blavatsky Lodge in Bombay reprinted a Gujarati book on death entitled *Mrityu*. The Karnataka Federation published as usual several books in Kannada. The UP Federation brought out a translation in Hindi of Radha Burnier's *Truth, Beauty and Goodness* besides some other works.

All the Federations have their own journals or bulletins. The Section's magazine *The Indian Theosophist* goes out every month to 5,000 members. *The Theosophical Digest*, quarterly magazine of the Philippines Section, is printed in India and is attracting subscribers.

The North India study camp took place from 15 to 19 October with our International President conducting a study of *The Way of the Disciple* by Clara Codd. She also directed the study at the South Indian Conference in Adyar from 21 to 23 April on *The Divine Plan*.

The TOS is active only in some Federations. It is necessary that every Lodge should have a TOS branch, for it helps to propagate Theosophy.

The Bharat Samaj Association, which aims at presenting Hinduism in the light of Theosophy, elected Mrs Radha Burnier as its life President. Cassettes of the daily puja and books on the puja and wedding ceremonies

are available, and suitable persons will train others to recite the mantras correctly if invited to do so. A training camp was held at the Bharat Samaj Temple in Adyar just prior to the international Convention. All these are meant to simplify, rationalize and theosophize Hindu practices.

Tremendous cruelty is practised on animals in the modern quest for profit. It is heartening to note that many members are taking part in the prevention of cruelty to animals. A public meeting at Chennai protesting against ostrich farming in India, presided over by Mrs Radha Burnier, was organized by young members at Adyar and Chennai.

I thank all those who have worked silently in the Lodges, Federations and the headquarters whose names may not appear in my report, but who are nevertheless pillars of our Section.

Mr S.M. Umakanth Rao  
General Secretary

## INDONESIA

Our Annual Convention took place in Sala Lodge, Surakarta, with about 48 members present. The theme selected was 'Universal Brotherhood'. The Council Meeting which was held then had representatives from eight out of the ten Lodges. Brother H. M. Soesiswo was

re-elected General Secretary, with Brother Soedadi as Treasurer. A panel discussion on 'The Attitude of Theosophists facing the Third Millennium' took place with speakers from six Lodges. On the last day, when a seminar on 'The Mission of Religion in Universal Brotherhood'

was organized, there were speakers representing Buddhism, Hinduism, Christianity and Islam and also the Kong Hu Chu religion. There were 33 guests present, apart from the Convention participants.

The Young Theosophists of Surabaya had a recreation-study camp in Tretes, a mountain resort in East Java. They had organized group discussions, a theosophical game (Lottery of Topics for participants) and outdoor meditation under pine trees. Four talks were presented, on Prayer, the Truth in Life, Man's Journey and Ways to Knowledge.

Brother Matius Ali of the Kreshna Lodge in Jakarta presented a talk on C.W. Leadbeater's *The Hidden Side*

of *Things* for members and a public talk on Annie Besant's *Seven Principles of Man* and HPB's *Key to Theosophy* with good attendance.

After reading about the conservation work done in the Adyar Library and obtaining information, the books in the Kreshna Lodge library were fumigated and other measures were taken to preserve them. Our headquarters started a programme of acquiring books for five Lodges; the purchase of books is very costly and we are unable to order what we want.

The decline in membership goes on.

Mr H. M. Soesiswo  
General Secretary

## ITALY

The General Council and the Executive Committee met regularly and administrative reorganization went on throughout the year.

As decided at the 85th National Congress, the Theosophical Library Foundation was brought to a formal end and the national library is now under the Italian TS, which is the owner of the library building in Rome.

The buildings in Trieste have been donated by the former independent non-profit corporation 'Accademia Studi Teosofici Edoardo Bratina' to the Section, thanks principally to Mrs

Mada Bratina. The new headquarters of the Section is in Vicenza; it was decorated after its purchase, thanks to donations of members of the theosophical group 'Aurora'. The opening ceremony took place on 11 June 2000 with the Chairman of the European Federation, Miss Tran-Thi-Kim-Dieu, present.

The Council of the Section constituted an Italian Publishing House after careful consideration of the publication needs in collaboration with 'Adyar Edizioni', directed by Grazia Pasianot. Among



the latest publications of 'Adyar Edizioni' are *The Mahatma Letters* and several books of Annie Besant and C. W. Leadbeater, as well as *At the Feet of the Master*. Our monthly magazine *Revista Italiana di Teosofia* has been distributed to more than 1000 subscribers and has received appreciative comments from readers.

On 30 September 2000, there were 1322 members, of whom 137 had not paid their dues. Since then, the situation has improved and we have 1251 members, of whom 119 have not paid up. We have 53 Lodges, 13 Centres and 230 unattached members. Four new groups were established: in Cavallirio, Brindisi, Taranto and Trapani-Agrigento.

A special thought must be given to the work of Brother Enzo Forcellini in Torino; he has been the true soul of theosophical activities there.

At the 85th National Congress of the Section held in Perugia about 80 members from all over Italy were present, and lectures were given by the Chairman of the European

Federation and Mme Danielle Audoin.

Among the other programmes of the year was a symposium on 'The Theosophy of Giordano Bruno', held in February 2000 at the International Centre of Theosophical Studies and Research at Cervignano. The papers presented there were published in a small volume.

In March 2000 the Ninth Seminar in collaboration with the European Federation took place at Castrocaro. It preceded the 86th National Congress, dedicated to the subject of education, with Professor P. Krishna among the invited guests.

The website of the Section has elicited many requests for information, particularly from young 'visitors'.

The TOS in Italy has supported the printing of theosophical literature for Eastern Europe and has contributed to the Olcott School at Adyar and the educational activities of the TOS in Pakistan.

Mr Antonio Girardi  
General Secretary

## MEXICO

Visits were made to seventy per cent of the Lodges in the Section. A new group was constituted in Merida, Yucatan, named Zazil Beh while the centre Ensenaza Viva was closed.

The National Council met five times during the year and planned the programme and work of the Section. There are five regional divisions in the Section. The Section has 280



members distributed in 25 Lodges and 4 study centres. Out of these, 160 are active members.

The International President visited the Section from 14 to 17 August 2000 and gave a series of lectures. She also visited the building of the Section on Durango Street, which has been deteriorating. She suggested that it could be sold and the proceeds placed in an interest-bearing fund. The income from this fund could then be used for the work of the Section. Terezinha Kind visited the Section in August and spoke on 'The Value of Silence'. Sr Gabriel Burgos visited our Section from 8 to 17 March and conducted a seminar called Seminar 2000. Members of the Section participated in the seminar of the Caribbean Basin, which was held from 28 June to 2 July in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

A number of diverse programmes were arranged for the dissemination

of Theosophy, including lectures, seminars, and courses. Three of them were at the national level, consisting of two series of lectures, three courses and a workshop in the headquarters.

One of this series of lectures was on 'The Paths of Spiritual Evolution', from 4 February to 23 June. The second series was called 'Theosophy, The Theosophical Society and the World', from 7 July to 10 November.

A series of courses were held at the Section headquarters, including: Study of *The Secret Doctrine*, *Jñāna Yoga* and *The Mahatma Letters*; and a workshop on 'The Fundamentals of Theosophy'.

The permanence of the headquarters at its present location on Ignacio Mariscal Street remains stable.

Mrs Lissette Arroyo Jimenez  
General Secretary

## THE NETHERLANDS

A lot of time and energy was given to amending the Rules and Regulations of the Dutch Section and of the Lodges in order to incorporate the essential elements required to be included, as per the decision of the General Council of the Society.

Our annual meeting of the Board with the Lodges was very lively; some

Lodges are trying to find new ways of working in order to attract the public. The Lodges with emphasis on the study of *The Secret Doctrine* and real Theosophy appear to be stronger than the others without such a focus. The two national study groups continue steadily to study *The Divine Plan* and *The Secret Doctrine*. It is of major

importance to make clear that the purpose of the TS is connected with the spiritual evolution of mankind and of individuals. Only with serious study can the TS fulfil this purpose.

The normal activities of the Section at the International Theosophical Centre at Naarden were as follows: in October 1999, there was a successful weekend to discuss the work of the TS; in March 2000 there was a weekend called 'The Universal Timeless Philosophy' with lectures by Prof. Wim van Vledder on the Upanishads. The theme of the summer weekend in

July was 'The Unfinished Symphony'. All of them had a good attendance.

A Dutch translation of T. Subba Row's Notes on the *Bhagavadgītā* was published, as well as a brochure on how *The Secret Doctrine* came to be written. We are working on a translation of S. S. Varma's book, *Teachings on Discipleship*, and also on *The Book of Dzyan*, containing the stanzas and precis of the commentaries made by Michael Gomes.

Mrs Ali Ritsema  
General Secretary

## NEW ZEALAND

The 103rd Convention of the Section was held for the first time in Epsom, in the premises of Blavatsky Lodge on the slopes of Mount St John in the shadow of our headquarters building, from 5 to 9 January. The theme was 'Truth and Transformation — Unveiling the Self Within'. Diana Dunningham Chapotin was the guest speaker. She lectured on 'The Future of the TS' and 'An Infinity Within to Give'.

We had a return visit from Ed and Mary Abdill of New York, who lectured in several branches. Linda and Pedro Oliveira conducted a workshop on 'The Dynamics of Theosophical Work' during the Queen's birthday weekend. Another

visitor was Brian Parry from Melbourne, who spoke to both Auckland and Wellington Lodges. Local speakers also gave the time and energy for spreading Theosophy throughout New Zealand. We have tried to supply speakers to our branches and centres every month.

An e-mail discussion group is still active. Many varied topics are discussed by a core of staunch supporters while others listen in from time to time. Bryan Pollock has revamped our web site.

Several of our pamphlets have been reprinted, including an updated version of *The Gateway of Birth and Death: the Door to the Future* by Geoffrey Hodson. We received 186

enquiries after advertising the booklet *Probing the Mysteries of Existence*. Our Vice-President, Conrad Jamieson, spent much time answering enquiries from people in prison. Free membership and the postal library are offered to them. Increased use of our video library was encouraging. A fine new video on 'The Inner Side of Music' by Hugh Dickson was produced.

There has been a slight increase in membership, which now stands at 1,122. Mention must be made of the outstanding work for the Society done by Mrs Roma Dunningham, who passed away. Two other long-standing members who left the physical body were Mr Rodney Prickett, who was President of the Christchurch Lodge, and Mrs Helen Stanton, also of Christchurch.

The visit of Diana Dunningham saw the reactivation of the TOS. Hazel Menehara was asked to be Coordinator. Many worthwhile

projects have been put forward, and members have responded well. They include support for the Olcott School, HPB Hostel, and Vocational Training Centre for Women at Adyar; TOS activities in Pakistan; Teddies for Tragedy; and assistance with equipment for research in Dunedin.

Three members were sponsored to attend the School of the Wisdom at Adyar, the Australian School of Theosophy and the Krotona School. Two branches were assisted with the purchase of overhead projectors. A special Convention meeting was held on 26 August to approve the revision of our Constitution and Rules.

In conclusion, I express my gratitude to the wonderful staff at headquarters and to all the Presidents, Secretaries and workers throughout the country.

Mr Arthur Goodall  
*General Secretary*

## THE PHILIPPINES

The TS in the Philippines has acquired a property which will serve as quarters for full-time, female Section workers. It will also be the location of the Sunshine Montessori Learning Centre, the Kindergarten school now located at the headquarters.

We started the Philippine Theosophical Institute, which is

meant to offer continuing courses to members and the public. The first course being conducted is for training facilitators of the Self-Transformation Seminars in Iligan City.

In Caloocan City, 1,369 square meters have been purchased as the site for a future theosophical high school to be run under the TOS. The

architectural plans are now being prepared.

In November 1999, the national Convention was held outside the headquarters for the first time in more than twenty years in Bacolod City, in a beautiful site called 'The Quiet Place'. The Maharlika and Celestine Lodges in Mindanao hosted a regional convention from 30 June to 2 July 2000, with the theme 'Universal Brotherhood — The Only Hope of the World'. The officers arranged for radio and television interviews as well as a public lecture on the theme.

Facilitators of the Self-Transformation Seminars have been quite busy conducting numerous seminars in various places. Future seminars are scheduled to be held in several countries.

On 14 May 2000 Brother Chong Sanne, President of Singapore Lodge, gave a lecture on *The Mahatma Letters* at the headquarters. He and his wife Lily have developed an audio-visual presentation which was used

successfully during a year in Singapore. Four youth camps were held, one for street children in the city, and three others for students from various communities.

A new study group has been formed in Naga City and also in Ormoc City and Quezon City. A study group formed in Manila, called Seekers of Truth, who have been meeting informally for about a year, decided to become a study group under the TS. Another study group has been organized at headquarters for the study of Krishnamurti teachings.

A weekly radio programme finished a series of studies based on HPB's *The Key to Theosophy* and is beginning another one based on I.K. Taimni's *Self-Culture*.

The National President gave lectures at a number of places and was also the guest at a television show called Point of View.

Mr Vic Hao Chin, Jr.  
*National President*

## PORTUGAL

The activities of the Portuguese Section went on with enthusiasm and we had public lectures and symposia every month, and branch meetings every week. We celebrated all the theosophical events.

Some members had the opportunity to participate in the meetings organized by the Spanish Section in Caceres (Spain). These meetings will be held alternatively in Spain and Portugal.



In September we received again the visit of the Chairman of the European Federation, Miss Kim-Dieu. A general meeting was held in the historic town of Santarém, with members from Lisbon, Oporto in the north of the country, and Evora in the South. She visited Evora again and contacted the members in the Lodge.

Our magazine comes out in four issues each year. We have established

relations with the Brazilian Publishing House.

We are still studying the Rules of the Section, but we think that it is not opportune to try any alteration, as we cannot face the complications that these alterations could bring about. It is preferable to wait.

Mr Humberto Alvares da Costa  
*General Secretary*

## PUERTO RICO

Our main work for this year was the organization of the Caribbean Basin Seminar, but the work in different Lodges continued.

In December we received the visit of Fernando and Ruth de Torrijos, who gave several lectures. Fernando and our President Magaly travelled to the Dominican Republic and gave four lectures and a workshop, two in the capital of Santo Domingo, and two in Puerto Plata. Both of them appeared on the Dominican television and also on radio.

In January we celebrated the 75th anniversary of our Section and released a book by Dr Aramis Lopez and Isidro Colazo on 'The History of the TS in Puerto Rico', which received the attention of the press. It was a meeting full of great memories, for we received the sons

and daughters of theosophists who were members in the past.

In February there were lectures in all the Lodges, and also celebration of Adyar Day and the annual assembly. In March and April the activities continued, but in addition there was a study of the Mahatma Letters directed by Dr Aramis Lopez. In May we had a workshop on the therapeutic touch and in June a one-hour radio programme in which Magaly Polanco and Jaime Baquero spoke about the TS in Puerto Rico. In addition, there was a night radio programme in which Magaly explained the aims of our Society. In July Bro. Isaac Jauli gave a lecture with an attendance of about 100. With these and many other lectures and programmes our work continued.

Mrs Magaly Polanco  
*General Secretary*



## SPAIN

At Easter we had a big gathering in Caceres centred around 'The Golden Stairs' of HPB. We were very happy that several Brothers and Sisters from Portugal attended and our contact with that country was renewed. Our summer school had as its subject 'The Birth and Development of Consciousness' with about 200 in attendance.

Two leaflets were printed to hand out to enquirers entitled 'Theosophy' and 'In Search of Truth'. We plan to print another four or five on different subjects.

We are following up action to recover the property of El Alcait.

The Lodges work along two basic lines: spreading our ideals through talks and courses, and creating a feeling of understanding and brotherliness.

We now have 363 active members. Our monthly magazine *Sophia* is sent to many Spanish-speaking countries and we believe they are pleased with the material in it, which is prepared with the help of Sister Consuelo Buron. The Theosophical Publishing

House translated and published the following: *From Inner to Outer Transformation* by Joy Mills; two volumes of *Talks on the Path of Occultism*; a second printing of *The Fundamentals of Esoteric Philosophy* by Ianthe Hoskins and *Human Regeneration* by Radha Burnier. Among the books in preparation are C.W. Leadbeater's *How Theosophy Came to Me* and HPB's *The Secret Doctrine*. The latter is being translated and about fifty percent of it is ready.

Brothers Angel Rubio and Isaac Jauli are in charge of the Theosophical Institute HPB, which has still a long way to go.

In conclusion the Spanish Section is working to spread Theosophy within the Lodges and towards inner realization that will result in brotherliness and understanding. We hope to be able to continue our work with the seriousness and enthusiasm we have had up to now.

Miss Maria Carmen Cesar Galante  
*General Secretary*

## SRI LANKA

We are examining the funding of a project to construct a new headquarters building and pushing forward the proposal to incorporate

the Sri Lankan Section. We are handicapped by the absence of proper office facilities at headquarters. The officers are carrying out their duties

from their residences, which is unsatisfactory.

On 30 September 2000 we had 209 members. It has been difficult to visit outstation Lodges. However, two visits were made to Shanti Marg Lodge in Galle.

At Colombo some activities, including lectures and group discussions, went on. On 17 November 1999, Olcott Day was celebrated with the US Ambassador, Shaun E. Donnelly, as chief guest. Again on 17 November 2000 the Section celebrated Foundation Day

with the US Ambassador, Ashley Wills, as chief guest. The Minister for Irrigation and Water Resources spoke on 'The Significance of Olcott Day'. The gathering was well attended and included students of Ananda College, founded by Col. Olcott over one hundred years ago.

In February 2000 we had a visit from Bro. Vic Hao Chin, President of the Indo-Pacific Federation, who spoke on 'Elements of the Mystical and Spiritual Life'.

Mr Tudor Jayewardene  
*General Secretary*

## SWEDEN

Six Lodges were active with many lectures and studies. In two places we have had special meetings to introduce new people to Theosophy. There were also some meetings for young theosophists.

At members' meetings, we discussed the future work of the Section. We are preparing an enquiry into how the members want to study Theosophy.

In March we had a mini-school with 16 participants at Omberg with the theme 'Exploring the Nature of our Search' with Tran-Thi-Kim-Dieu. One of our meditative morning walks took place in whirling snow.

The summer school was held at Loftadalens with 22 members and the theme 'Ancient Wisdom — Modern

Insight'. Before noon we had study groups working on Shirley Nicholson's book, and in the afternoon we had creative groups doing things inspired by the book, including meditation, painting, and photos. Every morning started with a meditative walk and meditation.

In September the editor of our magazine, Barbro Melander, passed away. For the first time we used our Ceremony at the End of Life Upon Earth — a ceremony in the spirit of Theosophy instead of an ordinary funeral.

We are working on translations of theosophical books. Shirley Nicholson's *Ancient Wisdom — Modern Insight* has been printed.

We are translating *No Other Path to Go* by Radha Burnier, and have started work on a new edition of *The Secret Doctrine*. Annie Besant's *The Ancient Wisdom* has been printed and also two new folders on 'Theosophy' and 'The Theosophical Life'.

Our bookshop in Stockholm was open three days a week with volunteers manning it. Our TOS is still helping an orphanage in Latvia.

Mrs Ing-Britt Wiklund  
General Secretary

## SWITZERLAND

No report.

## USA

The TS in America is in sound condition, active, growing and reaching out with new technologies to present the ancient wisdom of Theosophy to the world. Membership increased from 4,171 to 4,634, chiefly due to the Membership Outreach campaign organized by Suzanna Kenline. We will continue it next year. The proportion of member affiliation is 25 per cent local Lodge, 12 per cent local study centre, 9 per cent National Lodge, and 54 per cent members at large.

The National Board has been reorganized with eight members consisting of the President, Vice-President, and two representatives from each of the three districts. A successful regional development programme for the North-east

Federation resulted in the establishment of new groups and revitalization of old ones. Membership in the National Lodge is 675. These members receive two study papers a month. We have finished studies in *The Voice of the Silence* and are nearing the end of the second course on I. K. Taimni's *A Way to Self-Discovery (Self-Culture)*. We are in the early stages of a third course on the *Bhagavadgītā*.

Two national Young Theosophists meetings have been held, one at Pumpkin Hollow Farm with Prof. Ravi Ravindra, and another at Olcott. The Young Theosophists published a newsletter. They presented a play on the Sufi work *The Conference of the Birds* to the July Convention. The National Speaker Programme sent

twenty speakers around the nation during the year.

Through the generosity of the Kern Foundation and the Sellons an electronic fully automated library system has been acquired for the libraries at Olcott, Krotana and New York Lodge. This will create a library network allowing us to move into the age of electronic communication.

We are making progress organizing and expanding the Archives, which has been increasing in value because of donations received: Jennifer Hay of Canada has sent material connected with Annie Besant, Jinarājādāsa, Alexander Fullerton and others. Julia Rogers has sent photographs of prominent persons in the American Section in the first half of this century. From Auckland we have received pictures and materials relating to Geoffrey Hodson. John Kunz has donated a treasure of letters from Leadbeater, Annie Besant, Krishnamurti and others to his father, Fritz Kunz, as well as letters from Fritz to other people.

The second in our series of Wisdom Tradition Books, *Entering on the Sacred Way*, which is a commentary by Joy Mills on *Light on the Path*, was published. TPH will bring out later this year *The Esoteric World of Madame Blavatsky* by Daniel Caldwell, which gives an intimate picture of HPB. The other book is *The Visionary*

*Window: a Quantum Physicist's Guide to Enlightenment* by Amit Goswami. Translations of many Quest books are appearing in various languages.

Many new audio-visual programmes have been prepared, including Annie Besant's translation of the *Bhagavadgītā* read by Paul Meier, and an extensively revised and updated history of the Section entitled *The TS in America, 1875 to 2000*.

Programmes in Lodges and study centres around the nation are reported bimonthly in the Quest magazine. The National Centre has three seasons of programming in the year. In July, the theme of the Convention was 'The Ancient Wisdom in a New Century'. It had one of our largest attendances in recent years and was eminently successful. Radha Burnier was the principal speaker; her presentations were received with enthusiastic appreciation. Other challenging and informative presentations were made by Robert Ellwood, Joy Mills, Ed and Mary Abdill and Tom and Susan Ockerse.

The *Quest* is now a bimonthly journal featuring theosophical articles as well as appropriate general articles. *The Messenger* is published monthly most of the year and carries articles about Olcott as well as membership information.

Olcott has been improved with repaving of roads, recarpeting of buildings and so on. At its July

meeting the National Board officially named the building housing TPH, the Quest Bookshop and some residential rooms which was constructed during

her American presidency, as the Joy Mills Building.

Dr John Algeo  
*National President*



## REPORTS OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

### AMERICA, CENTRAL

No Report

### AUSTRIA

During the past year work went on as usual with lectures and studies in our three Lodges at Graz, Vienna and Linz. In August our annual summer school was held in Rohrbach with 23 participants and with the theme 'The Three Objects in Practice'.

The International Vice-President visited the Lodges in April and had

discussions with members. In Linz the public lecture attracted a relatively large audience.

A faithful member of many years standing, Katherine Hammer, passed away after a long illness.

Mr Franz Durkowitsch  
*Organizing Secretary*

### CANADA

Our membership increased by 22, 18 of whom are in a new study group.

By the end of November our new bylaws will be dispatched to the Adyar headquarters, after which we may go on to a membership drive.

Our magazine *The Lightbearer* is distributed not only to our members and other reciprocating TS groups, but is also mailed to universities and colleges to make Theosophy better

known. We expect some enquiries as a result.

We expect to have our own web page by January 2001. As we will have more funds from next February, we hope to invite more lecturers and increase exposure with the general public. We would like to see stability in the new study groups before asking for Lodge status.

Mr George H. Duguay  
*Organizing Secretary*

## CHILE

The number of members decreased to 39. The quarterly magazine of the Section continues to be published. The Section has a good library. The Theosophical Order of Service has sponsored meditations for peace. Mr Juan B. Cassibba from Argentina

visited our Section. Future projects include laying greater stress on self-understanding and public lectures with themes related to daily living.

Mr Maximiliano Aguilera  
*Organizing Secretary*

## IVORY COAST

The TS in our country has faced serious difficulties. The economic crisis was aggravated by a politico-military crisis which was unprecedented in recent years. All this has had a negative effect on the development of our work. Nonetheless we have been holding meetings regularly with enthusiasm.

On 3 October 1999 we began the year's activities with 21 members at headquarters, after which we celebrated the 124th anniversary of the TS in November. On 30 January 2000 we held our 3rd National Convention with 25 participants.

To commemorate the departure of our first Organizing Secretary and the

founding member of the TS here, we celebrated the third Guillaume Georges Mebiana Day on 16 July. On 20 July, in my capacity as Organizing Secretary, I participated in a local radio programme which elicited a lot of interest and caused us much satisfaction. Our national seminar, which is like a summer school, took place at headquarters and we learned a lot.

Our real difficulties are material and financial, for the fees and donations are insufficient to cover expenditure. Our young organization hopes to receive support from the TS in order to survive.

Mr Pierre Magloire Kouahoh  
*Organizing Secretary*

## NORWAY

The membership is 36, the same as last year. Public meetings in Oslo have

continued. There is also continuous activity in the Bergen Lodge.

In the 1999 report I had said that we were disappointed when the High Court lawyer pulled out at the last minute in respect of the case to regain part of our previous headquarters. I can now report that we are trying for the third time.

We discussed with Adyar the possibility of financial help to have a headquarters in Oslo. But it is too expensive.

After the status of the TS in Norway was changed from a Section to a Regional Association, it was not possible to find a new leader, so I continue my third term, which will end in February 2002. Our Rules have been revised to reflect the change to a Regional Association. We are still determined to rebuild the TS in Norway.

Mr Torstein A. Tobiassen  
*Organizing Secretary*

## SCOTLAND

Our new web site continues to create interest in Theosophy. It contains our newsletter, library information and membership details as well as Lodge programmes. We hope to develop it further and include theosophical study courses and possibly a discussion page.

We had a successful convention in Inverness at the end of May, which attracted over sixty people. Miss Mary Anderson, the International Vice-President, was a guest speaker in a varied weekend programme.

We received good rental incomes from both our Edinburgh headquarters and the Glasgow building, which has been restored.

Lodges had regular meetings and attendance levels are buoyant. Much work remains to be done on the promotional side to stimulate new Lodges and study groups, and to sort out the Edinburgh library.

Mr Alastair MacQueen  
*Organizing Secretary*

## SLOVENIA

The TS in Slovenia has 4 Lodges and 53 members. The Charter for the new Lodge in Maribor named Surya Svit (Rising Sun) was signed by the President of the TS on 17 February

2000. It has now 8 members and the participation of other seriously interested people.

The Maribor group works with a lot of good will, enthusiasm and

discipline, explaining the basic ideas of the wisdom teaching. There is an active correspondence between Koper Lodge and Maribor, with questions from the latter and answers from the former.

The members of Surya Lodge continue the study of *The Laws of the Higher Life* and *The Seven Principles in Man* by Annie Besant. They also deepened their research into what meditation is. Adyar Day was celebrated at Soncek with a weekend seminar on 'The Spirit of Fire is in Your Heart' in February. The work of the Lodge has been carried on in a harmonious spirit.

Adyar Lodge in Ljubljana had regular weekly meetings in a classroom until July, and then was able to hire a room in a private house, where we can be undisturbed. This home means a lot to us. The following were studied: A summary of talks given by Radha Burnier on *At the Feet of the Master*, Sri Ram's commentary on *Light on the Path*, *Meditation* by Clara Codd, *On Knowing Oneself* by Danielle Audoin, and material taken from *The Theosophist* or other magazines and books. In May an introductory course was given at a one-day seminar which was also attended by some members from Koper.

Two candidates for membership from Celje (70 kms. from Ljubljana)

regularly attend the weekly meetings in Ljubljana. So there is the prospect of reviving Razumevanje (Understanding) Lodge in Celje.

The annual convention was held in May and was well attended. The summer school in the middle of June was used by the European Federation to hold its Council and Executive Committee meeting and many friends from Europe gave talks, which were followed by questions. Some sympathizers from Croatia and some Italian members from Cervignano also attended. After the school, Mary Anderson gave a public talk in Celje, and a seminar for members in Ljubljana. At the end of September a weekend seminar was organized at Svecina near Maribor dealing with the constitution of man.

Our magazine *Theosophical Thought* is published three times a year and is available at bookshops besides going out to members and Lodges. Interest in theosophical teachings seems to be growing. A translation of Danielle Audoin's *On Knowing Oneself* was published in the summer.

The members in Slovenia share ideas with TS members in other parts of the world and feel a sense of close contact by communicating through letters, personal contacts, etc.

Mrs Irena P. Kristan  
Organizing Secretary

## TOGO

Our activities begin every year on 1 October and end on 31 June.

Lodge Amor studied HPB's *The Key to Theosophy*. During the seminar and spiritual retreat held in our Centre in September we had the theme 'The Basis of a New Religion' and the three objects of the Society. The members took part in moonlight meditation in their own quarters.

In the John Coats Lodge, which is dormant for more than five years, three members studied *At the Feet of the Master* along with sympathizers. We hope the Lodge will rise up from its ashes one day.

The new group Krishnamurti studies *Thoughts for Aspirants* of Sri Ram and other theosophical subjects. It is a dynamic group and I hope with all my heart that it will receive a Charter from Adyar.

Our Association receives ten copies of *Le Lotus Bleu* from the French Section and some books also. We have also received from Adyar *The Theosophist* and four books in English.

Mr M. Dam Tsowu  
*Organizing Secretary*

## URUGUAY

As of 30 September 1999 the TS in Uruguay had a total of 67 members, which was below the minimum of 70 required by the International Rules. Thus our Section became a Regional Association.

On four consecutive Saturdays in October, Sister Thelma Cestau coordinated a theoretical/practical course, Introduction to Meditation, which was attended by 20 members and sympathizers.

In December our library reopened its doors to researchers and the public after several years of arduous reorganization work done by Sister

Ema de Souza and Brother Nelson Corrales.

On 7 January we celebrated the 75th anniversary of the TS in Uruguay, and invited new members to participate in an additional meeting during which we welcomed them and discussed with them and other older members the Objects of the Theosophical Society and its essential work.

On 21 March a new Study Group, Gaia, started functioning with TS members and sympathizers meeting every Sunday, guided by two TS members.



All the significant theosophical dates were commemorated along the lines of the celebrations taking place at Adyar.

From 11 to 14 May, Mrs Terezinha Kind from Brazil, lecturer of the Inter-American Theosophical Federation, gave two public lectures on 'The Value of Silence' and 'Daily Practice of the Spiritual Life'. She was interviewed in a radio programme broadcast by the TS in Uruguay, and also gave a talk for members, the main themes being HPB's message and theosophical work. She left us with a feeling of warmth and affection lasting for many days.

The theosophical radio programme 'New Humanity' continues to function with the collaboration of several members. Based on the number of calls that we receive after

these programmes, we know that many people are in permanent contact with Theosophy.

The Mini Bulletin of the TS in Uruguay continues to be published as part of the magazine of the TS in Argentina, *Teosofia*.

TOS work continued with Circles for Peace and Healing Groups coordinated by Sister Thelma Cestau. We are very grateful for a donation of US\$1,000 from the members of the Healing Group and a few others for repairing our headquarters building, which had humidity and water leakage problems. As a result, we were able to warmly and affectionately receive our International President, Mrs Radha Burnier.

Mrs Mercedes Fernandez  
*Organizing Secretary*

## WALES

No report.

## REPORTS OF PRESIDENTIAL AGENCIES

### ASIA, SOUTH-EAST

The most important development in the region was the formation of the first Lodge, with 14 members in Thailand, called Siam Theosophical Society. It holds fortnightly meetings in Bangkok and has members belonging to different faiths. The moving spirit is Miss Susan Adler.

Another new Lodge was Besant Lodge in Patiya, Bangladesh, with 25 new members. Brother B. L. Bhattacharya toured Bangladesh for the third time and stimulated the work.

Brother Vicente Hao Chin, Jr., visited Comilla Lodge in Bangladesh and also lectured at Singapore and Selangor Lodges in Malaysia. One of the members received a scholarship to attend the Australian School of Theosophy, and it is hoped that he will help Comilla and other Lodges.

Kusum Lodge and the newly formed Besant Lodge in Bangladesh have study classes twice a week,

whereas Chittagong Lodge meets only once a month.

TPH Adyar has presented books and photographs of theosophical leaders to several Lodges in South-east Asia. Singapore Lodge is perhaps the most active in this area and deals mainly with the study of basic theosophical principles, making full use of lecturers passing through the city. Dr N. C. Ramanujachary from India gave three public lectures and a series of five lectures on *Practical Occultism* by HPB. The Lodge also offered a basic Theosophy course.

In Malaysia, Selangor Lodge holds regular meetings, but no report has been received from Seremban Lodge and the study centre at Muar in south Malaysia.

The membership continues to increase. It now stands at 409 with 9 Lodges, not including the one in Myanmar.

Dr C.V. Agarwal  
*Presidential Representative*

### BOLIVIA

The four Lodges of the TS in Bolivia met on the last Sunday of every month in order to study Theosophy and enjoy fellowship in harmony and happiness. During the year the three theosophical

commemorative dates were celebrated.

'Inti' Lodge coordinated a meeting to study Karma held on 29 and 30 April in San Benito, which is 37 kms from Cochabamba. On 5 and 6 August another meeting took place in San Benito, this time coordinated by Lodge Alaya de Los Andes to study Chelaship.

From 20 to 25 May seminars were given by Mrs Terezinha Kind from Brazil on the themes 'HPB's Message' and 'Some Considerations about Theosophical Work' in Cochabamba and La Paz. She also gave public talks on 'The Value of Silence' and 'Daily Practice of the Spiritual Life'. Her good work was appreciated.

From 12 to 18 June, Juan Carlos Palmeri from Argentina gave a seminar with the theme 'The Mystery of Human Nature and Its Seven

Principles', and two public talks on 'Man, an Energy Centre' and 'States of Consciousness after Physical Death'. During the same period Juan B. Cassibba and Paulina Palmeri, also from Argentina, gave a seminar in Cochabamba and La Paz with the theme 'Letters from the Masters'.

Lodges and study and youth groups continue to have regular meetings at headquarters on different days and times.

We were greatly pained that our International President, Mrs Radha Burnier, had to cancel her visit to our headquarters during her Latin American tour this year because of political disturbances. We will nevertheless continue to work with the hope that there will be another opportunity for her to visit the TS in Bolivia.

Mrs Teresa W. de Nuñez  
*Presidential Representative*

## COSTA RICA

Our three Lodges — Virya, Shakti and Dharma — met regularly in San José on different days every week, devoting over one hour to Basic Theosophy Courses and one and a half hours to general meetings on theosophical themes. The meetings of the Presidential Agency have also taken place regularly. Eleven new members joined, and four were lost

due to one death and three lapsings, bringing the total to 95.

One group is devoted to the study and practice of meditation mainly along the lines of the Yoga Sutras of Patanjali. They dedicate their meditation to world peace. The study group in Cartago, outside the capital, continues to carry on its work with enthusiasm, guided by Sister Thais

Meoño, and will probably develop into a future Lodge. A group working on a Project of Holistic Development for Members of the TS has developed two modules, and will start work on the third. The Healing Group meets every Wednesday.

A group of members is working on making the separate Libraries of the three Lodges available to people. Another group of members have been working on a correspondence course on Theosophy.

During Holy Week (from 17 to 23 April) a Theosophical Workshop took place as usual, the main theme being 'Theosophical Work', with sub-themes: 'New Horizons', 'New Paradigms', 'Non-conventional Rules', 'Team Work', and 'Service'. The Holy Week Workshop was coordinated by Sister Maria de los Angeles Orlich.

Nine public talks were given during the year, with topics including 'Oriental Philosophy', 'Overview of Krishnamuti's Teachings', 'Introduction to the Kabala', 'Brahma-Vidya', and 'Zen Practice'.

During November we received the visit of Jan and Terezinha Kind from Brazil, who spoke on: 'The Message of HPB', 'The Value of Silence', 'Daily Practice of the Spiritual Life', and 'A Movement in Action'.

During March, Gabriel Burgos from Colombia visited us and spoke on many themes: 'Ideals and Masters', 'The *Bhagavadgītā*', 'History and Myth', 'Annie Besant: My Heroine', 'The Importance of Small Things', 'A Vision of Brotherhood in a Changing World', 'Reflections about Death', 'The Process of Evolution', 'The Science of the Emotions', 'Self-Knowledge', and 'Self-Confidence'.

In August, our International President, Mrs Radha Burnier, gave talks and conducted meetings that were most valuable with all the members. She spoke on: 'A New Mind for a New Era', 'The Essential Unity of All Religions', 'The Divine Plan', 'The Meaning of Being a TS Member'. We felt blessed to have her visit.

Twelve members from Costa Rica attended the Theosophical Seminar of the Caribbean Basin in June and July. All theosophical days were commemorated jointly with enthusiasm by all three Lodges. We also celebrated the foundation days of the three Lodges.

We spent nearly US\$10,000 to improve and safeguard our building. Our annual fee is US\$15.50.

Mr Jaime Hernandez Hostaller  
*Presidential Representative*

## DENMARK

The year was quiet, with no big changes. We had fourteen public

lectures in Copenhagen in our rented premises. All the speakers were as

usual members of the TS. Some new people came to listen and four applied for membership, but we are still 37 members in Denmark because one passed away and three resigned.

Three study groups are continuing their work regularly. We have had four members meeting in our private Theosophical Centre. A

few new pamphlets on Theosophy and the TS were produced, which we sent to people who respond to our home web page or phone us. The sale of theosophical books has increased.

Mr Flemming Hansen  
*Presidential Representative*

## HUNGARY

The general meeting was held on 7 October 2000 and the majority of members were present in person or by proxy. After the report and financial statement for 1999-2000 was received, we discussed the study plan and the place for meetings.

Only one study group was active, going into *Simple Explanations of Theosophical Terms* by M.E. Wilkinson and A.W. Osborne, which was translated and published in 1998. It was decided that every member should take a turn and explain it according to his or her studies and experience. This method worked well.

As Mr Lazslo Reicher was unable to continue his activity, public

lectures were temporarily suspended. In August Mr Lazslo Reicher, a most devoted member, passed away.

Two of our members living about 200 kms. from Budapest have led some studies for non-members. I visited them once a month to help them. We commemorated White Lotus Day on 8 May.

We now have 37 members on record, of whom one-third are able to take part in meetings only occasionally. The really active members are the ten or twelve persons staying in or near Budapest.

Mr Thomas Martinovich  
*Presidential Representative*

## PAKISTAN

The Presidential Agency consists of two Lodges: Karachi and Hyderabad. The Karachi Lodge is

more active. It had 114 members on 30 June. The monthly lectures at a five-star hotel were well attended and



well received. They were also publicized in leading daily newspapers, thus making the Karachi TS more visible in the city.

Our Wednesday study group met throughout the year for in-depth study of Theosophy. The books studied were: *The Divine Plan* by Geoffrey Barborka (selected chapters) and *The Ageless Wisdom of Life* by Clara Codd. Special meetings were held on Foundation Day, Adyar Day and White Lotus Day.

The library had 218 registered borrowers as on 30 June. The library and reading room facilities were utilized by the public free of charge.

The *Karachi Theosophist* presenting inspirational and helpful articles is published bi-monthly. *Achchho Kanwal* (The White Lotus) our Sindhi language journal, also published bi-monthly, has attracted the attention of Sindhi-speaking people.

Repairs and renovation of our Jamshed Memorial Hall is nearing completion and our auditorium, library, study classroom and members meeting room are much improved. The Hyderabad TS is preparing to celebrate its centenary in February next year.

Mrs Gool K. Minwalla  
*Presidential Representative*

## PERU

A total of sixteen public talks were held in the year 2000, of which four were delivered from October to December 1999. The year was rich in visitors. In June we received Juan Cassibba and Juan Carlos and Paulina Palmeri from Argentina. Juan Carlos gave three talks on Buddhist teachings in the light of Theosophy which attracted a big audience. Paulina and Juan Cassibba gave talks to members on the Mahatma Letters. In July Terezinha Kind from Brazil gave two talks for members and one for the public on spirituality in daily life. In September the International

President's visit had a big impact on members and the public. A public lecture on 'Life — Our Great Teacher' attracted about 350 people, an attendance we never had in Peru.

In October we offered a course on the principles of theosophical philosophy, which we repeated in May and again in September with good public participation. In August we started a course on Theosophy for new members conducted by Edith Pomar.

HPB Lodge studied Prof. Ravi Ravindra's books on the *Gospel of St John* and the *Yoga of Christ*. Besides this, it organized lectures for special

sympathizers on such subjects as 'What is Esoteric?', 'Dreams' and 'The Source of Joy'.

Lodge Loto Blanco finished the study of *Human Regeneration* by Radha Burnier and began the study of *At the Feet of the Master* with the commentaries of Besant and Leadbeater.

The study group Verdad finished the study of *Self-Culture* by I.K. Taimni and started with *Karma and Reincarnation* by Annie Besant. The method used in both Lodges is exposition by rotation, which helps the members to study by themselves and qualify for work.

Under the auspices of HPB Lodge, Foundation Day, Adyar Day and White Lotus Day, as well as the anniversary of the foundation of the TS in Peru and that of HPB Lodge, were celebrated.

We now have 41 members after 2 resignations and 4 lapsings, offset by 8 admissions of new members.

The circulation of the tenth number of our magazine, *Búsqueda*, which started with a printing of 500, has now risen to 1000, including gifts to journalists and university students, and copies sold at conferences, etc.

We receive publications from several Spanish-speaking Sections, so we select articles from them to

photocopy and distribute to our members, who thus receive something valuable to read every month. We also photocopy Spanish publications and sell them to members.

New members receive introductory letters from the Presidential Representative for eighteen months informing them of the work and philosophy of the TS. The Argentine Section provides us with a diskette with this material and we adapt it for our purposes.

Jorge Melgarejo was appointed Director of the TOS in Peru in February. They organized activities like cleaning the city of garbage; giving gifts to children at Christmas time, and clothes to old people in Homes.

In January a group of Young Theosophists started activities in Miraflores every Sunday. Eight members are meeting regularly and studying Norman Pearson's *Space, Time and Self*. They also have other activities like walks in the country and movie forums. This is the first time we have a group of Young Theosophists in Peru and I am optimistic about the development of the TS in our country.

Mr Julio Gerardo Pomar  
Presidential Representative

## RUSSIA

There is one Lodge, the Blavatsky Lodge in Magnitogorsk, and a study group of 18 Fellows at Large in Moscow who carried on activities steadily. In Magnitogorsk the basis for the meetings were *At the Feet of the Master*, articles from *The Theosophist*, some chapters from *The Bhagavadgītā* and some of the Mahatma Letters. There were also some discussions on self-knowledge, mastering the emotions, and control of the mind.

From 8 to 10 November Alexei Milstein, Julia Chernyshova and Nina Veligon conducted a seminar on the nature of mind attended by 22 people who were interested and asked many questions. A television interview on 'The Aim of Modern Education' with the Chairman of the European Federation, Miss Kim-Dieu, given in Magnitogorsk the previous year, was broadcast for the second time in September this year during her visit to Magnitogorsk. Not long ago my colleagues elected me Chairman of the Board of Magnitogorsk's Department of the Russian Children's Fund, which is a member of the International Association of Children's Fund. I have the opportunity in this capacity with the help of fellow psychologists Julia Chernyshova and Alexei Milstein to

influence the work and help in educational programmes and social and medical work with children from the theosophical perspective.

Recently I received a letter from a theosophical group in Taganrog, said to have been organized in 1996. We are trying to establish communication. In September, I visited Moscow where the members meet fortnightly. Their studies and discussions were based on *At the Feet of the Master*, *Foundations of Esoteric Philosophy*, *Human Regeneration*, the *Bhagavadgītā* and some excerpts from the Mahatma Letters. The members took turns in preparing discussions. Two sessions were devoted to videotapes of Krishna-murti. We have sent 30 to 50 copies of *Foundations of Esoteric Philosophy*, *On Knowing Oneself* and *Human Regeneration* to Kazan, Krasnoyarsk and Kiev.

From 15 to 17 September a seminar with 21 participants on the theme 'Theosophy Here and Now' took place with participants from Moscow and Magnitogorsk (Russia), Kiev (Ukraine), and Minsk (Belarus). The atmosphere was very harmonious and the work fruitful. It was our first seminar in Moscow without the Chairman of the European Federation.

Mrs Nina Veligon  
*Presidential Representative*

## VENEZUELA

There are still only two Lodges in this Section and although we had 4 new members there were 9 lapsings, bringing our membership down to 21. Public lectures and other meetings

continue in both Lodges, and there is an active Round Table group.

Miss Mariela Lasso Salas  
*Presidential Representative*

## REPORTS OF LODGES ATTACHED TO ADYAR

### BELFAST LODGE (NORTHERN IRELAND)

The year was full of surprises, the main one being the damage done to our Lodge premises and library at Hillsborough Drive, which rendered the place unusable. In two weeks' time we were functioning again and running our Sunday meetings at a more congenial and central location near Queens University.

A new spirit has entered Belfast Lodge; the roll downhill has been stopped and new confidence is taking over. The meetings are well attended

with an average of five or six. Books studied this year were *The Divine Plan*, some books on J. Krishnamurti's teachings, and *Theosophy as the Masters See It* by Clara Codd.

The idea of a North-South linkup is still on the table and hopefully it will happen soon. All mail should be sent to Pineview Park, Newtownabby, Co. Antrim, BT36 7NX.

Mr John Doherty  
President

### DUBLIN LODGE (REPUBLIC OF IRELAND)

No report.

### COVENANT LODGE (ISRAEL)

Members' meetings are held every second week, once to study *The Voice of the Silence*, and the next time to discuss other theosophical subjects. Every month three public meetings are held, one in a rented hall in Tel-Aviv and the other two in our centre. In these meetings we usually have 70 to 80 participants. We continue to go out every month for a day of study and meditation in Nature with 40 to 50 members and non-members.

A seminar was held in April on Creating Happiness with more than 300 present. Meetings are held twice a month to introduce Theosophy to the younger generation.

As in the previous year, five introductory courses took place in Tel-Aviv with 10 to 15 participants each. The Teaching Theosophy course is still running with about 10 participants. In addition, we hold two meditation courses.



Among the special events of the year was an evening dedicated to Madame Blavatsky's life and teachings and the Vaisakh meditation in our centre. Both were held in May. We also had six one-day workshops on 'Karma — How We Create Our Destiny'; 'Meditation as a Tool for Healing'; 'Touch Death and Wake Up to Life'; 'Therapeutic Touch'; 'Meditation and Intuition Development'; 'The Chakras'; and 'Meditation — the Art of Conscious Living'.

A Hebrew translation of Annie Besant's *A Study in Karma* was published and is selling very well. We

have released the 52nd issue of our magazine *Or*.

The International Vice-President lectured here in June and we look forward to her next visit.

On 30 September 2000 we had 65 members. Our mailing list includes more than 2,000 sympathizers. We still carry on the new category of semi-members called The Circle of Friends of the TS. These 40 semi-members are not ready to join yet, but want to be in close touch.

Mr Abraham Oron  
*President*

## NIPPON AND OSAKA LODGES (JAPAN)

There are 91 members, including four new admissions, distributed in Nippon Lodge (in Tokyo), and Osaka Lodge. We received a visit from the International President at the end of September 2000. She addressed a public meeting in Tokyo on 'A New

Mind for a New Age', which was well attended. Some members from Osaka participated. There were also informal meetings with members.

Mr Jeff Clark  
*Coordinator*

## SEOUL LODGE (KOREA)

One of our members, Miss Kim Eun Kyung, spent a year at Adyar to study Theosophy and prepare herself for work. Another member joined her for part of the period. Our

membership stands at 25, and we continue with regular studies.

Mr Lim Kil Young  
*President*

## REPORTS OF FEDERATIONS

### EUROPEAN FEDERATION

In October Miss Maria Artaama, Treasurer of the Federation, and myself visited the Ukraine and conducted a four-day seminar on 'Ethics and Its Influence on Individuals and Societies' in Dnepropetrovsk. We also gave a talk to sympathizers at the University of Mining on 'Approaching the Timeless Wisdom'. In addition, two talks were arranged for the first time in Kiev, Ukraine. It is of interest that after several years of communication the attention of some of the Fellows-at-Large is turning to the plight of sentient beings and the necessity to consume food that is healthy, and not the product of violence. During all the programmes in Russia and the Ukraine the food was vegetarian.

The Executive Committee of the Federation met at Naarden in January. In March I visited Estonia and Finland, and then proceeded to Sweden.

In March, Madame Danielle Audoin and I were at the 9th Seminar

organized by the Federation in cooperation with the Italian Section at Castrocaro, where there were more than 50 participants from ten towns in Italy and also a few from elsewhere. The theme was 'The Self is in All Beings and All Beings are within the Self'. The programme included discussion and questions and answers.

Using the Financial Aid Fund, several Fellows-at-Large from Europe were invited to various programmes at Naarden, which they found an uplifting experience. The Federation also presented many books to these Fellows-at-Large to be used in Russia, the Ukraine, and Estonia. Adyar TPH sent parcels of books at our suggestion to the public library where our programmes were held in Moscow. A new contact is underway with Belarus.

Miss Trân-Thi-Kim-Điêu  
*Chairman*

### INDO-PACIFIC FEDERATION

The Federation President visited a number of countries within the area of the Federation and conducted Self-

Transformation Seminars. In Bangladesh it was conducted in English with Bengali translation. In

## REPORTS OF FEDERATIONS

Comilla he discussed with officers building renovation, library collection and TOS work.

In Sri Lanka a public seminar was conducted on 'The Mystical and Self-Mastery'. Meetings with officers were held regarding building repairs, Lodge revitalization and other important matters.

I also visited Selangore Lodge, Malaysia, and lectured on 'Self-Mastery: the Key to the Spiritual Life'. Two Malaysian newspapers published interview reports.

The Transformation Education Group in Perth, Australia, formed last year to help train facilitators for

the Self-Transformation Seminar, conducted a public seminar this year. It is now a part of the TOS in Australia.

In India the Federation President had meetings with the President and Vice-President to discuss TS work in the Indo-Pacific area and also to do research for the Theosophical Encyclopedia.

The next meeting of the Federation will be held in January 2001 during the World Congress and a new set of officers will be elected.

Mr Vicente Hao Chin, Jr.  
*President*

## INTER-AMERICAN FEDERATION

No Report



**DIRECTORY**  
**AND**  
**MINUTES**  
**OF THE MEETING OF THE**  
**GENERAL COUNCIL**



## DIRECTORY

### *Ex-Officio Members of the General Council*

*President: Mrs Radha Burnier*

*Vice-President: Miss Mary Anderson*

*Secretary: Mrs Dolores Gago*

*Treasurer: Mr D. K. Govindaraj*

### National Societies, Regional Associations and Presidential Agencies

Date of Formation	Name of Section	General Secretary	Address
1947	Africa, East & Central	Mr C.P. Robertson Dunn	PO Box 45928, Nairobi, Kenya
1909	Africa, Southern	Mr T.G.Davis	22 Buffels Rd., Rietondale 0084 Pretoria
1956	Africa, West	Mr P.B. Kwakyi	PO Box 720, Accra, Ghana
1929	America, Central*	Mrs Carmen Aguilar Alvarez	3a, Calle 5-35 Zona 2, 0 1002 Guatemala, Guatemala
1920	Argentina	Mr Jorge Cesano	Rivadavia 533, 2200 San Lorenzo, Santa Fe
1990	Asia, South East †	Dr C. V. Agarwal	The Theosophical Society, Varanasi 221 010 India
1895	Australia	Mrs Beverley Champion	4th Fl., 484 Kent St., Sydney, NSW 2000
1912	Austria*	Mr Franz Durkowitsch	Altmühlweg 5/6, A-4810, Gmunden
1911	Belgium	Dr H. van der Hecht	166 Rue de la Cambre, 1200 Brussels
1965	Bolivia †	Mrs Teresa W. de Nuñez	Casilla de Correo 3911, Cochabamba
1920	Brazil	Mr Ricardo Lindemann	Sociedade Teosofica no Brazil, SGAS Quadra 603, No. 20, CEP 70200-630 Brasilia (DF)
1924	Canada*	Mr George H. Duguay	1667, Nash Road, Box 108, Unit F-18, Courtice Ont. L1E 1S8
1920	Chile*	Mr Maximiliano Aguilera	Casilla 3603, Santiago
1937	Colombia	Mrs Nelly Medina de Gavis	Cra. 6, No. 56-40, Bogota-2
1997	Costa Rica †	Mr Jaime Hernandez Hostaller	Apdo 2986-1000, San Jose
1905	Cuba	Mrs Nilda de la Caridad Venegas Bernal	Apartado de Correos 6365, La Habana 10600
1918	Denmark †	Mr Flemming Hansen	Ystadvej 38, DK-2850 Naerum
1888	England	Mr Colin Price	50 Gloucester Place, London W1U 8EA
1907	Finland	Mr Yrjo Kumila	Vironkatu 7c2, Fin 00170, Helsinki
1899	France	Mme Danielle Audoin	4 Square Rapp, 75007 Paris
1902	Germany	Mrs Elisabeth Schmidt	Friedrich-Wilhelm-Str., 54, D-12103, Berlin

\* Regional Association

† Presidential Agency

# DIRECTORY

Date of Formation	Name of Section	General Secretary	Address
1928	Greece	Mr G. P. Sivris	25 Voukourestiou St., 106 71-Athens
1907	Hungary †	Mr Thomas Martinovich	Hunyadi Janos ut 17. II. 8, H-1011, Budapest
1921	Iceland	Mr Jon L. Arnalds	PO Box 1257 Ingolfsstraeti 22, 1212 Reykjavik
1891	India	Mr S.M. Umakanth Rao	The Theosophical Society, Varanasi 221 010
1912	Indonesia	Mr H.M. Soesiswo	Jalan Oto Iskandardinata III/G. 336, Jatinegara, Jakarta 13340, Timur
1949	Ireland, North*	Mr John Doherty	2 Pineview Park, Newtownabbey BT36 7NX, Co. Antrim
1902	Italy	Mr Antonio Girardi	Via Quintino Sella, 32, C.P. 640 36100 Vicenza
1997	Ivory Coast* (West Africa)	Mr Pierre-Magloire Kouahoh	Yopougon, 23 Rue Princesse B. P. 3924, Abidjan 23
1919	Mexico	Mrs Lissette Arroyo Jimenez	Ignacio Marsical 126 Col. Tabacalera C.P. 06470 Mexico 1, D.F.
1897	Netherlands	Mrs Ali Ritsema	Tolstraat 154, 1074 VM Amsterdam
1896	New Zealand	Mr Arthur Goodall	18, Belvedere Street, Epsom, Auckland 3
1913	Norway*	Mr Torstein A. Tobiassen	PO Box 2889, Toyen 0608 Oslo 6
1948	Pakistan †	Mrs Gool K. Minwalla	Jamshed Memorial Hall, M.A. Jinna Road, Karachi
1924	Peru †	Mr Julio Gerardo Pomar	Jr. Republica de Portugal 152, Breña, Lima 5
1933	Philippines, The	Mr Vicente Hao Chin, Jr.	Corner P. Florentino and Iba Streets, Quezon City
1921	Portugal	Dr Humberto Alvares da Costa	Campo Martires da Patria 69, r/c-Dto., 1150 Lisboa
1925	Puerto Rico	Mr Benito Rodriguez	GPO Box 36-1766, San Juan, 00936-1766
1994	Russia †	Mrs Nina Veligon	Perekulok Soviet House 4, Flat 56, 455036 Magnitogorsk
1910	Scotland*	Mr Alastair MacQueen	2 Brownhills Cottages, St Andrews, Fife KY16 8PL, UK
1992	Slovenia*	Mrs Irena P. Kristan	Martinova pot 35, SLO - 1210, Ljubljana
1921	Spain	Miss Maria Carmen Cesar Galante	Virgen de Icair 15 - 1° A, 28220 Madrid
1926	Sri Lanka	Mr Tudor Jayewardene	84/3 Pepiliyana Road, Dostarawatta, Nugegoda
1895	Sweden	Mrs Ing-Britt Wiklund	Kalle Posts väg 48, SE-702 29 Örebro
1910	Switzerland	Mr Edwin Nathan	9, Avenue Eugene-Pittard, 1206 Geneva
1997	Togo*	Mr M. Dam Tsowu	BP 215, Atakpame
1886	USA	Dr John Algeo	PO Box 270, Wheaton, IL 60189-0270
1925	Uruguay*	Mrs Ema de Souza Leal	Javier Barrios Amorin 1085, Casilla de Correos 1553, Montevideo
1922	Wales*	Mrs Liz Parker	206 Newport Road Cardiff CF2 1DL, UK

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, 2000

**The Council of the European Federation:** *Chairman:* Miss Trần-Thi-Kim-Diêu  
67 Rue des Pommiers, 45000 Orleans, France

**Inter-American Theosophical Federation:** *President:* Mr Alfredo Puig Figueroa  
SGAS Quadra 603, No. 20 (CEP-70200-630),  
Brasilia (DF) Brazil

**Indo-Pacific Theosophical Federation:** *President:* Mr Pedro Oliveira  
4th Floor, 484 Kent Street, Sydney, NSW 2000, Australia



### Additional Members of the General Council

Miss Tran Thi Kim Diêu, 67 Rue des Pommiers, F- 45000 Orleans, France (for 2001, 2002 and 2003)

Mr K. Visvanathan, 'Surya', 187, Dr N. R. Road, Injambakkam, Chennai 600 041, India (for 2001, 2002 and 2003)

Mr Paul Zwollo, International Theosophical Centre, Valkeveenselaan 19, NL-1411 GT Naarden, The Netherlands (for 2001, 2002 and 2003)

Miss Ianthe Hoskins, 37 Victoria Hill Road, Hextable, Swanley, Kent BR8 7LL, England (for 1999, 2000 and 2001)

Miss Joy Mills, 22 Krotona Hill, Ojai, CA 93023, USA (for 1999, 2000 and 2001)

Mr Surendra Narayan, F-225-A, Sainik Farms, New Delhi 110 062, India (for 1999, 2000 and 2001)

Mr Gabriel Burgos Suarez, Transversal 19, No. 61-32 Bogota-2, Colombia (South America) (for 2000, 2001 and 2002)

Mr Curt Berg, Mirabellbacken 11, SE-165 61 Hässelby, Sweden (for 1999, 2000 and 2001)

Mrs Linda Oliveira, 11 Denison Street, Hornsby, NSW 2077, Australia (for 2000, 2001 and 2002)

MINUTES

**Of the meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society held  
on Monday, 25 December 2000, at Adyar**

P R E S E N T

Mrs Radha Burnier	<i>President (in the chair) and proxy for South Africa, West Africa, Cuba, Finland and the Philippines</i>
Miss Mary Anderson	<i>Vice-President and proxy for Greece</i>
Mrs Dolores Gago	<i>Secretary and proxy for Argentina, Colombia and Mexico</i>
Mr D. K. Govindaraj	<i>Treasurer and proxy for Mrs Linda Oliveira</i>
Mr Ricardo Lindemann	<i>General Secretary, Brazil</i>
Mrs Elisabeth Schmidt	<i>General Secretary, Germany</i>
Mr S.M. Umakanth Rao	<i>General Secretary, India</i>
Mr Antonio Girardi	<i>General Secretary, Italy</i>
Ms Carmen Cesar Galante	<i>General Secretary, Spain</i>
Mr Tudor Jayawardene	<i>General Secretary, Sri Lanka</i>
Dr John Algeo	<i>National President, USA</i>
Ms Joy Mills	<i>Additional Member and proxy for Australia, Indonesia and New Zealand</i>
Mr Surendra Narayan	<i>Additional Member</i>
Ms Tran-Thi-Kim-Dieu	<i>Additional Member and proxy for France, Portugal and Mr Curt Berg</i>
Mr K. Visvanathan	<i>Additional Member</i>
Mr Paul Zwollo	<i>Additional Member and proxy for the Netherlands</i>

*Present by invitation as Observers:*

Dr C. V. Agarwal	<i>Presidential Representative for South-East Asia</i>
Mr John Vorstermans	<i>New Zealand</i>

The President warmly welcomed those present.

The list of proxies was read out as recorded above.

### 1. Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the meetings held at Adyar on 25 December 1999 and 1 January 2000, which had already been circulated, were confirmed and signed.

### 2. Matters arising out of the Minutes

#### (a) Greece

It was reported that a new General Secretary had been elected in the Greek Section. He has informed us that harmony has been restored within the Section; relations with Adyar are good. Except for Blavatsky Lodge, which is inactive, the Lodges are actively engaged in theosophical work. Following the adoption by the Section of the revised Rules, these have been submitted to the authorities. We are awaiting the English translation.

#### (b) The World Congress

The final programme has been received. A little more than 500 participants have registered.

### 3. Confirmation of Voting

#### *Re-election of Additional Members for the years 2001, 2002 and 2003*

The President had renominated Mr Paul Zwollo, Mr K. Visvanathan and Ms Trần-Thi-Kim-Điêu under Rule 2(b) of the Rules and Regulations for election as Additional Members of the General Council.

The results of the voting were:

	For	Against	Abstained	Total
Mr Paul Zwollo	33	-	-	33
Mr K. Visvanathan	32	-	1	33
Ms Tran-Thi-Kim-Dieu	31	1	1	33



The three above-named were declared re-elected Additional Members of the General Council for the years 2001, 2002 and 2003.

#### 4. Report of the Non-English Publications Fund Committee

The Vice-President reported that no requests for grants had been received during the year ended 30 September 2000.

The following were appointed members of the Committee for the years 2001, 2002 and 2003:

President of the TS	Chairman
Vice-President of the TS	Vice-Chairman
Miss Joy Mills	
Mrs Danielle Audoin	
Mr Juan Cassibba	

#### 5. Report of the International Finance Committee

The Vice-President presented the report of the International Finance Committee for the year ended 30 September 2000.

The following were appointed members of the Committee for the years 2001, 2002 and 2003:

The President of the TS  
 The Vice-President of the TS  
 The Treasurer of the TS  
 Mr Surendra Narayan

#### 6. Report of the Executive Committee for the year ended 30 September 2000; Executive Committee for 2001

Salient points from the Minutes of the Executive Committee were presented.

The following were appointed members of the Executive Committee for 2001:

Mrs Radha Burnier	<i>President</i>	} ex officio
Miss Mary Anderson	<i>Vice-President</i>	
Mrs Dolores Gago	<i>Secretary</i>	
Mr D. K. Govindaraj	<i>Treasurer</i>	
Mr Surendra Narayan	<i>General Council Member</i>	
Mr K. Visvanathan	<i>General Council Member</i>	

Mr Conrad Jamieson

Mr K. P. Shenoy

Mr R. M. Tolani

#### **7. Treasurer's Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2000**

The Treasurer's report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2000, which had previously been circulated, were considered. The overall financial position of the Society continued to be satisfactory. The report and accounts were adopted.

#### **8. Budget for the year ending 31 March 2002**

The budget for the year ending 31 March 2002, which had been previously circulated, was considered and adopted.

#### **9. Auditors for the year ending 31 March 2002**

Messrs. Fraser and Ross were appointed auditors of the Theosophical Society for the year ending 31 March 2002.

#### **10. Work around the World**

##### *(a) Scotland*

The Vice-President reported that the Charter of Orient Lodge in Edinburgh and the Diploma of Andrew Hennessey, former Secretary and Treasurer of that Lodge, have been cancelled by the Council of the Regional Association and the Lodge as well as Andrew Hennessey have appealed. She gave details based on extensive documentation.

The consensus of the Council was that the reasons given for the cancellations were flimsy. On the other hand, the Lodge and the member in question had not been at all reasonable.

The Council was concerned that unbrotherly situations had repeatedly arisen in the TS in Scotland. They strongly advised that the parties should talk together in an objective, theosophical spirit and sort out their problem. If no solution is found, the International Society will consider intervention.

##### *(b) Other Areas*

No reports had been received from eight countries, but world membership could be estimated to be about 31,000. Membership had risen in the USA from 4171 to 4634. In India it had risen to 12,852.

*(c) Miscellaneous*

The President and Vice-President briefly presented a survey of work and problems around the world.

**11. Any Other Business**

*Use of TS Premises by other bodies*

In view of the serious problems and expenditure involved in obtaining a High Court order to make the Blue Cross of India vacate the premises they occupied for years in the TS, the Council resolved that in future the occupation or use of TS premises by an organization or person should not be permitted except on extremely rare occasions and in exceptional circumstances or with the prior permission of the General Council.

